

OPPack Silver: "staggering economics and environmental aspects made this pack stand out"

#### BUTTER WRAP

Continued from front page

Corti ag di Kirchberg and Hilpacs sa of Lausanne.

Opp sachets which also registered a 60 per cent reduc-

tion in material usage featured for the Silver Award winners, Coccioni srl and Di Va Int'l Trading srl, producers of paper and cotton towlettes based in Foligno, Italy.

The opp laminates used

for Fria and Limpia sachets and Alitalia packs were converted by Italian company, Morgan SpA and these replaced the previously used paper/alufoil/pe structures.

The judges found "the sheer economics and environmental aspects of the pack staggering" as well as praising the resulting 60 per cent increase in machine speeds.

"Clearly the environmental

#### LICENCE PRESSURE

Continued from front page

packs with more comprehensive patient information will make it difficult for companies to leave their own products as they are, even when immediate change is not required under the legislation.

Prescription-only and some cartonless OTC products such as cough mixtures are likely to be most affected. With an increasing choice of UK and foreign prescription products supplied with leaflets, pressure will grow on all manufacturers to conform.

For OTC products, information for patients must include all inactive ingredients, interactions, overdose advice and side effects. In many cases this will mean that more space

OPPack Bronze: "clean, easy to understand, traditional graphics for the consumer purchase"

aspects of this opp structure, especially in comparison with the previous specification made this pack stand out even more," said Mr Pratty.

Taking the Bronze award was Switzerland-based Arni ag for its biscuits wrapped in a reverse printed Bicor 25 MB 666 laminated to OPPalyte 35 MW 647 which, along with the other awards, replaced a paper/alufoil/pe pre-made bag.

Graphics were said to be one of the main reasons behind this winning entry as they made it clear to the consumer what they were purchasing, and in addition were clean, easy to understand and traditional.

Closing the award ceremony, Mr Pratty said that it was a shame that all of the 20 entrants could not win awards

as the competition for second and third places was extremely close. "The overall winner is, in our opinion, however, the best entry."

Further information on the OPPack Awards is available from Mobil Plastics Europe (UK): 1 Towers Place, Etc Street, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6EG - tel: 081-332 6261.

CIRCLE NUMBER K1-127

will have to be found, whether on leaflets inside cartons or incorporated into labels.

Although larger bottles and jars might find space on the pack, smaller containers are more likely to need additional space. This may mean that whole ranges of product in different sized containers will use cartons or leaflet labels, in the interests of consistency.

There are no stipulations as to point size on labels of instructions, but the Medicines Control Agency (MCA) insists that text must be legible and easily comprehensible. Copies of guidelines or further advice can be obtained from the agency

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competition for the lucrative area of pharmaceutical and other leaflet labelling has been highlighted by the high court and county court decisions regarding a patents dispute

between David Instance and Denny Bros Printing/Fix-a-form International.

The dispute has been settled with two David Instance patents remaining in force. Denny Bros and Fix-a-form have been granted license under these patents, with the specific terms undisclosed.

The adoption of Bowater board trays for such mainstream and premium brand leaders as Findus is a real marketing landmark," says Bowater Foil & Paper Products (Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TV16 5JQ - tel: 0932 785272, fax: 761927) sales

director John Pammert.

Benefits claimed to have been achieved are cost reduction, deep freeze to dual-oven performance and among customers enhanced brand perception of modernity and environmental responsibility, says Mr Pammert.

"Our research showed that the nature of the tray is a low consumer priority," says John Montgomery, senior brand manager for Findus Recipe dishes.

Before deciding on the change in packaging material, Nestle carried out an extensive

programme of testing and consumer performance trials.

"Plastic trays were an extra cost to Findus yet conferred no extra product value to the customer. Foil is economical but product convenience is reduced.

Pressed board costs less than both plastics and moulded fibre yet performs just as well.

So the move to Bowater trays enabled us to provide consumers with dual-cook convenience in a cost effective way," says Mr Montgomery.

Bowater produced tooling to match Nestle's Euro 3 plastic profile. The trays are formed by heat and pressure in 390gsm ovenable board with a white pigmented inner pet coating for enhancing appearance before and after cooking.

Outside the trays have a grey speckle pattern which found favour in production line trials. Bowater tests performed well and the change of tray materials has required no more than minor adjustments of side belts and sealing times at Findus' plant in Long Eaton.

Space savings are another benefit of the system, which combines pallet indexing, collation forming, layer sheet placing, folding and gluing as a tray, palletising and pe film pallet wrapping in a single operation.

Display pallets, where pallet loads are used directly as layer-tray pallet units, are popular in Scandinavia. They save on shelf-loading time for store staff and provide pallet stability while saving materials that would otherwise be used in individual display/transit trays or cartons.

The fully-dedicated and automatic CombiWrap works from a dual infeed to build up collations of product on the stripper plate. Layer by layer the pallet is built up and trays formed with a folding and hot

# NEWS

FEBRUARY 1984

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## Findus ready meals board tray switch

Nestle UK has switched its

findus ready meals sold under the

Lean Cuisine

brands out of plastics

and foil containers and into

Bowater ovenable board

trays. These brands are the first

national ready-made meals to

make this switch.

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## Monitoring acquisition

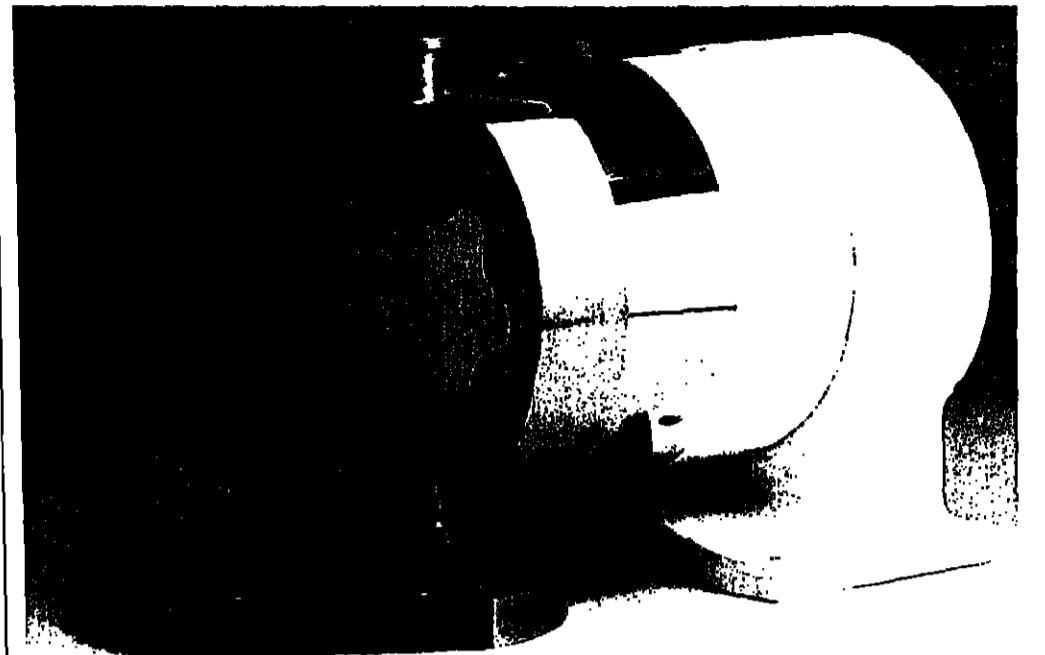
The acquisition by Graseby plc of Best Inspection Ltd strengthens the group's presence in product monitoring, adding checkweighing and other control management systems to the Graseby portfolio.

Best supplies checkweighers, grading and other equipment to the food and pharmaceutical industries, and will now be known as Graseby Best. The new company will add its product range to the group's range of metal detectors, X-ray inspection and coding systems.

"There is a natural fit," says Mike Shiel, managing director of monitoring at Graseby (Vale Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 4JX - tel: 0753 869351, fax: 840079).

For further information K2 143 Call for details 0839 772268

## Filling lines cleaned in place



CE King identified ITT Jabsco Pureflo 55 pumps as replacements for standard gear pumps

In a boost to filling line efficiencies, The Body Shop in Luton has modified its existing CE King fillers with a Clean In Place (cip) system.

King had been working on ways of providing cip on its Technofill fillers, and had identified ITT Jabsco Pureflo 55 pumps as replacements for standard gear pumps. The Body Shop was itself keen to install cip, reduce downtime and so increase output.

Trials were carried out initially at King's own factory and then at The Body Shop, whose engineers worked with the manufacturer of the pump.

The Body Shop's lines include several high speed 12-head King filling machines. Technofill equipment has a gear pump as standard. These

are said to be easy to flush through during changeover between products and are easy to dismantle without tools.

So while on smaller filling lines there may be negligible time saving with cip, on larger machines the system reduced downtime, without the need to dismantle filling heads.

Fillers are flushed through with hot water and detergent at the end of a production run. Operators then draw a sterilising fluid into the filling heads, leaving it there for up to half an hour. This kills any residual bacteria. Finally, hot water is used to flush the whole system through again.

Estimates by The Body Shop put time saved by the system at 45 minutes for each washdown. CE King is at 41 London Street, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8AR - tel: 0932 565191, fax: 566593.

For further information K2 141 Call for details 0839 772268

## Flexo look for dog food

Companion Animal Foods Ltd has given its Hardy Original dog food a new look and has used flexo rather than the previous gravure printed packaging to achieve it.

The graphics now feature line and half tone illustrations and are designed to reflect recent market research findings. They are targeted to appeal to specific consumer groups.

"In the past we purchased a gravure printed laminate from Italy. However, we felt it was too visually clinical and had become dated," says John Murray, md of Companion Animal Foods. Sidlaw Packaging - Venus is now supplying the flexo printed laminate, which as well as providing the right look is also reported to run better on ffs packaging equipment. "Initial reaction from supermarket buyers has



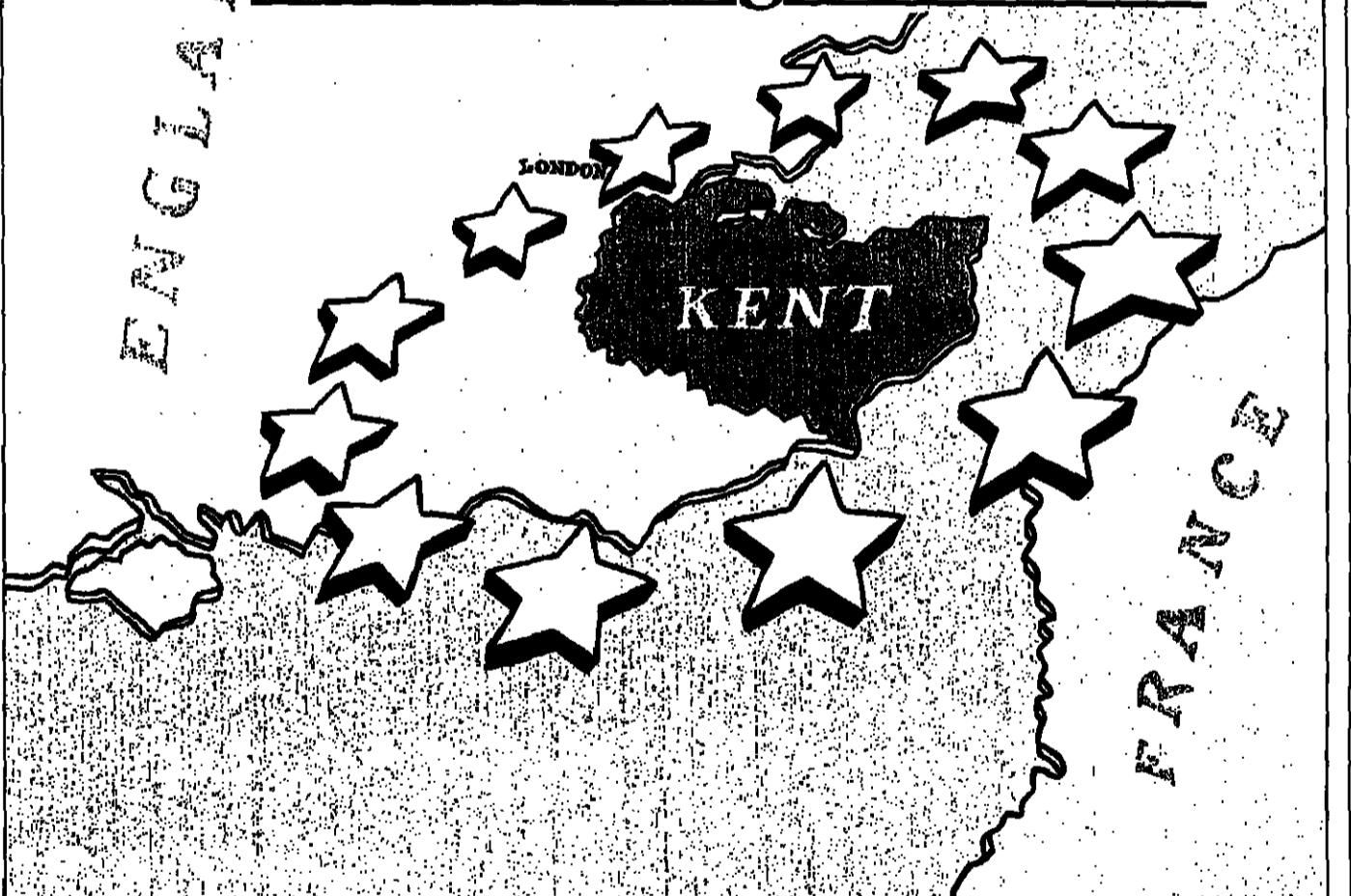
Vibrant graphics for pet food

been very positive and we anticipate a healthy sales boost," says Mr Murray.

Sidlaw Packaging - Venus is based at Digby Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire - tel: 0602 324391, fax: 327506.

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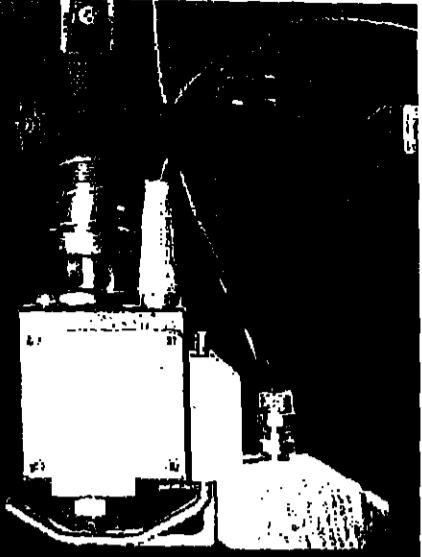
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## Symposium on easy opening

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In response to the increasing prominence of the issue of 'openability' of packaging, the Institute of Packaging (IOP) is holding a one-day symposium designed to provide an insight into the question and the solutions.

Called Easy Open, the symposium is to be held at the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, London on 21 April. A non profit making event and limited to 140 places, the price is £80 +vat for IOP members or £85 +vat for non members.

It is hoped that a member of the Government will provide the keynote address; other speakers include Jean Ashcroft, director designate of Arthritis Care, director of research at the Centre for Applied Gerontology, University of Birmingham, Dr Laxman Nayak and Caroline Ellis, market development manager of Rockware Glass.

Managing director of PI

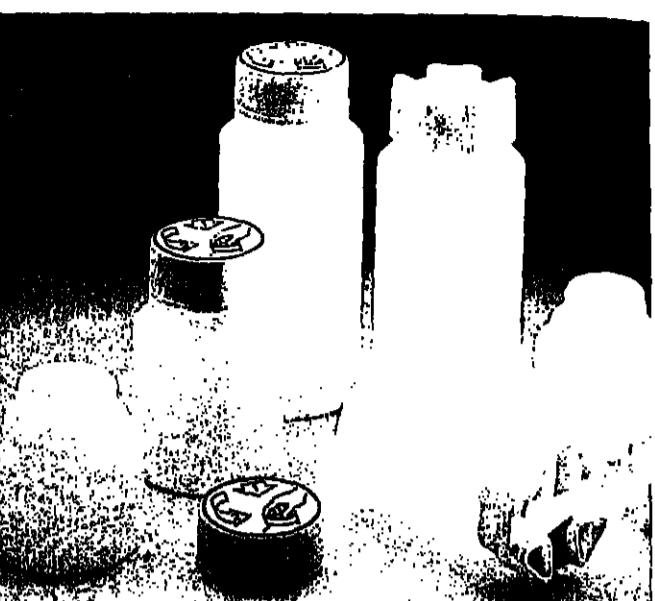
Design Consultants Chris Griffin and Colin Scaife, manager of packaging technology at Reckitt & Colman, will also speak.

Chairing the one-day conference is Editor of Packaging News Gail Lea.

Says IOP board member and honorary organiser Harold Redwood: "As the age profile of our population steadily increases we must start considering what can be managed with arthritic fingers, poor eyesight or other forms of physical weakness. The 'grey' consumer also has a greater spending power than is currently reflected in terms of easy usage of retail packaging."

Registration forms and further details are available from Pam Creed, conference manager at the IOP (Sysonby Lodge, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE13 0NU - tel: 0664 500055, fax: 64164).

• Two recent examples of



The cap designed by UCP for people with limited manual dexterity

work in the area of openability have come from UCP - Norwich and Terra Pak Ltd. UCP has designed a closure specifically for use by people with limited manual dexterity for leading pharmaceutical manufacturer, Eli Lilly.

The result of a joint development programme between the two companies, the 33mm twin walled, wadded cap will soon be available worldwide. It is hexagonal shaped and has an intermittently ridged skirt, enabling arthritic people to grip it and turn it easily, says UCP (Salhouse Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR7 9AL - tel: 0603 423131, fax: 407942).

It also has a cross section in the top into which the user can insert a pencil or spoon in order to make turning easier. Made from white pp, the cap will fit all of the 70, 100 and 180ml hdpe bottles used for tablets and capsules by Eli Lilly.

Meanwhile, Terra Pak Ltd has announced that an independent survey of its Terra Top carton among disabled people has found that a very high 90 per cent found it "a lot" or "very much" easier to

open than the conventional liquid carton.

Terra Top incorporates an easy-to-open ring pull, and almost all users questioned by research organisation ConsultABLE said it needed "little" or "very little" effort or manual dexterity.

"We are naturally delighted with the results from an independent research company which proves," says Uli Brasen, managing director of Terra Pak, "that the Terra Top is the carton of the future with its easier opening, better pouring and recyclable advantages."

The survey was commissioned following the Institute of Grocery Distribution's (IGD) three year initiative set up last year for improvements in the openability of food packaging. Indeed, Jane Moore of the IGD called for this when speaking at the Tetra Pak Fruit Juice Seminar.

IOP:

For further information K2-116 Call for details 0839 772268

UCP:

For further information K2-119 Call for details 0839 772268

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## PPMA: growth with service

Despite a history which goes back only seven years, the Processing and Packaging Machinery Association has demonstrated a consistent growth in membership and a corresponding widening of the services it offers to those members.

With a brief to promote the sales of equipment both in and outside the UK, the PPMA will undertake projects of benefit both to members and customers. Its higher-profile activities include the annual PPMA show and its own publications.

Originally eight companies came together to found the association: ACM Machinery, Robert Bosch, RA Jenton, Engelmann & Buckham, IMA, Sussex & Berkshire, Rockwell and Ultracap. At the first meeting of the association in 1987, 40 companies - the bulk of them importers of machinery - attended.

Although it is holding its own show as usual in the autumn of that year, the PPMA officially supports Pakex '95. In this and some foreign events the PPMA says it can help members to realise cost savings if they decide to exhibit.

Structures within the association are designed for maximum openness within the obvious limits of so wide-ranging a membership. The council normally consists of the president, vice president and 10 other councillors. The current president is David Wright of Europack, his deputy Derek Moore of Sussex & Berkshire.

Since that merger, membership has again doubled to 235 companies. The PPMA represents suppliers of UK and foreign equipment in almost equal numbers, and these companies account for an estimated 90 per cent of UK sales in this sector.

Initially the PPMA saws itself as being little more than a marketing support service. Since then, emphasis has been put on three other areas:

- raising the sector profile
- ensuring continued development of the show
- maintaining an up-to-date directory.

Before the PPMA came onto the scene, the machinery sector was treated very much as a second class citizen, according to association general secretary Andrew Manly. Since then it has succeeded in raising the group's profile. "But even today, the PPMA's most important role is to give the machinery sector a more effective voice in the market place," says Mr Manly.

Faces change with democratic frequency on the council, with five seats vacated each year and elections held for replacements. The president is elected by fellow councillors for a term of one year.

Day to day business is carried out by a permanent secretariat based in Croydon. Alongside Andrew Manly are Angela Locke, the exhibition manager, Bill Lake, publishing co-ordinator and David Harrison, in charge of membership and advertisement sales.

Publications from the association include the quarterly *Machinery Update*, launched in 1989 and now edited by Michael Maddox, a show catalogue and an EU (European Union) legislation update. Technical con-

From the first show in 1988, which counted around 90 exhibitors, the event has

In the second of our series where we meet associations and other industry bodies to look at the reasons why they were set up, a profile of the membership and how the service provided to members has evolved, we focus on the machinery sector. Gail Lea talks to Processing and Packaging Machinery Association general secretary Andrew Manly.



(from left to right) Bill Lake, publishing co-ordinator, Angela Locke, exhibition manager, Andrew Manly, general secretary and David Harrison, in charge of membership and advertisement sales

sultant Martin Keay performs an important function within the association, sitting on legislative bodies and reporting back to the membership.

Links are being strengthened with other organisations including Picon and the Institute of Packaging. An IOP machinery course in April has been restructured by the PPMA to give a more focused view of particular areas.

Liaison with foreign associations in the sector is largely carried out through Copama (the Confederation of Packaging Machinery Associations), of which the PPMA was a founder member.

Confederation business is worked on by delegations from each of the member countries: the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the UK and USA. Presidency of the confederation will be held by the UK delegation from just after Pakex '94 until 1996.

The PPMA is at Progress House, 404 Brighton Road, South Croydon, CR2 6AN - tel: 081 8226, fax: 081 681 1641.

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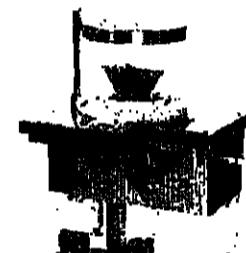
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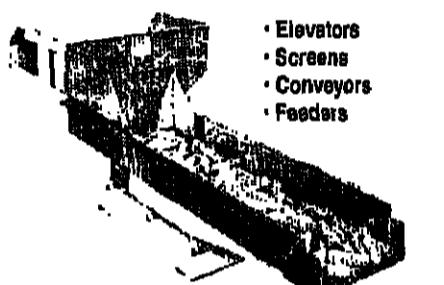
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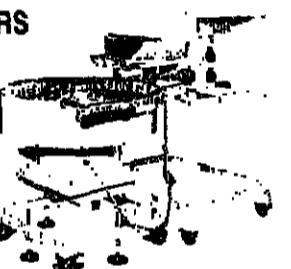


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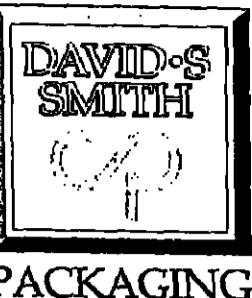
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## Steel drums anticipate regulations

Following more than 12 months' development work with Safety-Kleen UK Ltd, the UK waste management firm, Van Leer UK Ltd is introducing open top steel drums in 50-205 litres capacity.

"Anticipating the introduction of ADR regulations in the UK to cover the movement of hazardous products with effect from January 1995, the containers will carry the UN mark on the body", says Roy Wyldes, market development manager at Van Leer (Steel Drums), Merseyside Works, Ellesmere Port, South Wirral L65 4EZ - tel: 051-355 3644, fax: 051-356 3365.

All the drums have been UN performance tested and certificated for hazardous liq-

uids in the range SG1.2 to 1.4. At present in the UK there are no specific regulations covering the movement of hazardous goods by road. The European Union ADR regulations will tighten this up.

This is the first steel drum that is UK produced which can be opened and resealed and is suitable to contain hazardous liquids, says Mr Wyldes.

The technology required to produce the drums has meant altering the shape of the closing ring, the area at the top and bottom of the drum where the strength of the seams is important. A heavier gauge steel is also used.

The 50, 60 and 120 litre drums have tapered bodies allowing the drums to be delivered with their lids and closing

rings loose, the bodies nested to save transport and warehouse space. Mr Wyldes said the company is also close to finishing off a 25 litre size.

The 205 litre drums have the lids and closing rings fitted when delivered but after removal for filling can be refitted by hand. Safety-Kleen has its own facilities for inspecting the containers for reuse.

Brian Wilson, distribution centre manager at Safety-Kleen tells *Packaging News* that the company is introducing the drums to allow it to carry out its

waste minimisation programme.

"The drums will be used on average two to three times and therefore will reduce the amount of waste going to landfill."

The open-top "is easier to clean. However, it does mean more monitoring and checking of the drums", says Mr Wilson.

Open top drums in the 25-205 litre capacity have traditionally been used for powders, greases and pastes. Van Leer has spent over £150,000 on the open drum project for liquids.

For further information 01302 0839 772268

Call for details

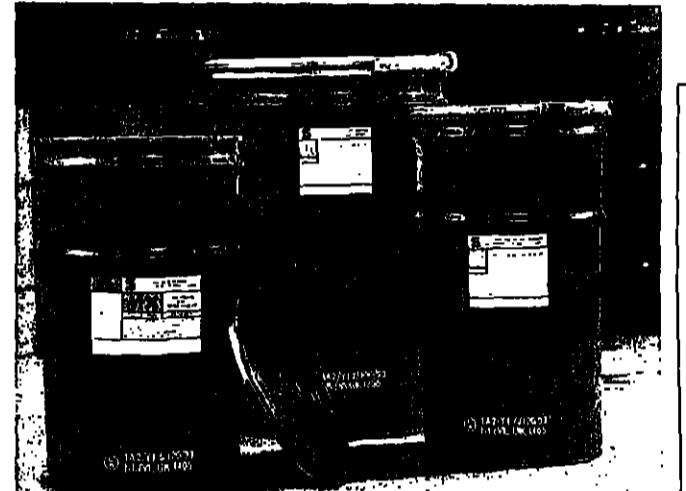
K2-412

0839 772268

Ring: 0898 772268

for fast enquiry response ...

(see page 2 for further details)



## Van Leer is introducing open top steel drums of 50 to 205 litres

### Macropak '94 in May

Around 600 exhibitors and an estimated 35,000 visitors are expected to attend Macropak '94 in The Netherlands.

The show, which will take place in the Jaarbeurs from May 2 to 6, will be spread over 7 exhibition halls divided up by sector and material.

The biggest sectors represented at the fair are the packaging and food and drink industries. Innovation and packaging materials

will be the key aspects of Macropak, said the organiser. Important areas of focus will be the growth in recycling, limitation and improvement of materials used. In addition to this, The Netherlands' highly-respected Golden Nut environmental awards will be presented. Part of the remit to win a gold award is to prove some environmental benefit from the innovative packaging.

The environment also features strongly in the conference programme where Hans Alders, the Dutch environment minister and Germany's Klaus Töpfer, with the respected former French environment minister Brice Lalonde will discuss their national legislation and the European Packaging Directive at the European Packaging Conference on May 3.

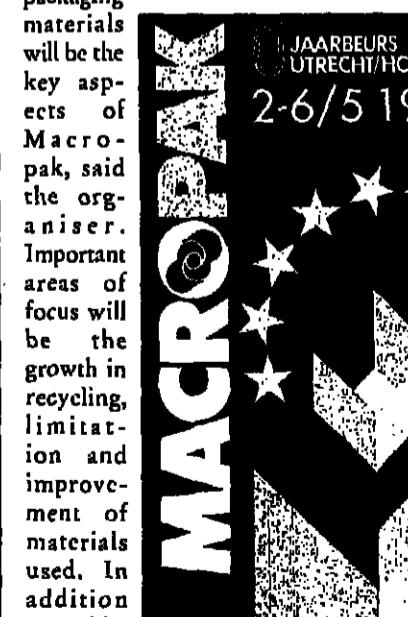
For the first time at the exhibition a section has been given over to packaging design.

A special stand will be fitted out devoted to the theme of unwrapped packaging design.

Representatives from machinery and packaging lines, ancillary equipment, bulk packing, packing materials and information systems feature among those who are expected to be exhibiting at the international event.

For detailed information contact the Jaarbeurs at PO Box 8500, 3503 RM Utrecht, Holland - tel: 010 31 30 955 524, fax: 955 539.

The environment also features strongly in the confer-



and information systems feature among those who are expected to be exhibiting at the international event.

To: McCann McGuirk Presentations

Greenmount House, Harold's Cross Road,

Dublin 6W, Ireland.

Tel: (4)532497/(4)532493 Fax: (4)544179

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## New faces at PN

Camila Reed has joined *Packaging News* as deputy editor from *Metal Bulletin*, where she was assistant editor. She has experience of European environmental issues from her work on *Haznews*, the international business monthly covering waste management, and will further develop this role on *Packaging News*.

Her fluent Spanish, French and Italian will come into play here. She will also be responsible for the news pages of *Converting World* and will be building her contacts in this sector over the next few months.

Walter M Schneider has joined *Packaging News* as European Sales Executive to further develop the sales effort



Camila Reed

on the continent. For the last four years he has been working exclusively for other Maclean, Switzerland-based home.

Hunter titles, including *Paper, Film & Foil Converter* and *American Printer*. He is fluent in five languages and sales support services are provided by his wife in their Lugano, Switzerland-based home.

Jo Lardinoye has been appointed managing director, sales Europe, Near and Middle East and Africa for the Eastman Chemical Company. In his new appointment, Mr Lardinoye will be located at Zug, Switzerland.

Gary Pichon has taken over responsibility as senior vice president of the packaging operations group of Riverwood International, for carton operations worldwide. Robert Hart has taken over as senior vice president, paperboard operations group, and Octavio Orta is now senior vice president, coated board systems and service.

AG Spall has assumed responsibility for finance as an executive director of Imperial Chemical Industries plc. Mr Spall, who was previously general manager, takes over from CM Short, C Hampson, another executive director of the company, will retire in April, to be replaced by M E Brodgen.

Peter Richardson is now managing director of Battenfeld UK Ltd, part of the Battenfeld group. Mr Richardson has been with the company since the beginning of 1993. Heinz Rasinger has been appointed international marketing manager at Battenfeld, Austria, manufacturers of injection moulding machines.

Jan Hayter has been appointed technical director of Tameside Board, after promotion from the post of sales manager. Peter Nadin replaces him in sales, joining the company from Marquip Incorporated.

Jo Lardinoye has been appointed managing director, sales Europe, Near and Middle East and Africa for the Eastman Chemical Company. In his new appointment, Mr Lardinoye will be located at Zug, Switzerland.

Ashley Goldie has been appointed technical director of Tameside Board, after promotion from the post of sales manager. Peter Nadin replaces him in sales, joining the company from Marquip Incorporated.

Jan Hayter has been appointed marketing manager at Alko Packaging, having

previously worked as product development manager and marketing manager at Alko Packaging.

Brendan Mulqueen will be responsible for running Marchmont Packaging's Heidelberg and Komori press production director. Previously he was with the Smurfit organisation.

Brian Gilchrist takes over new position as sales manager of the packaging division, at Incotec Ltd. The appointment allows Mark Leeson, operations manager, more time for his other responsibilities.

Brian Baines has taken over from Peter Godfrey as managing director of Ferry Pickering Sales. Mr Baines was previously deputy to Mr Godfrey. Neil Farmer has been appointed marketing manager with the company.

Michael Watts, formerly sales and marketing manager at All-Fill, is now managing director. He replaces Chris Head, who will continue with the company as chairman. Mr Watts has also taken an equity stake in the business.

Bipin Gandhi has been appointed joint managing director of P Garnett & Son Ltd, the speciality papermaker. Mr Gandhi was formerly commercial director at Leonard Stace Ltd.

Trevor Stone joins the management board of nmc (UK) Ltd as sales manager of nmc nomafoam, the foam packaging division of the company. Melanie Davies-Mercer has joined nmc as customer services manager, a new position in the company.

If you think 185°F is extreme, you're right. That's the reason Johnson Controls turned to JCI's Plastic Container Division, turned to Kodak® PET polyester are up to the job.

These containers from JCI provide the excellent clarity, breakage resistance, and

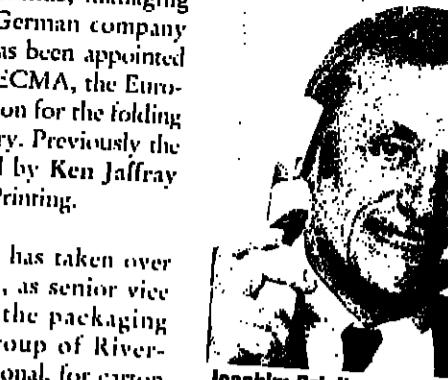
overall good value that are characteristic of Kodak PET.

For more information on how we can help you with your packaging needs, call 1-800-525-5000 or write to Johnson Controls, Inc., 1000 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30367.

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Fax: 0733-314077

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Joachim Dziallas

Peter Jarrold, chairman of Jarrold & Sons Ltd, has been appointed president of the British Printing Industries Federation. He is the sixth generation in the family to hold the post of chairman of his company.

Ashley Goldie has been appointed technical director of Tameside Board, after promotion from the post of sales manager. Peter Nadin replaces him in sales, joining the company from Marquip Incorporated.

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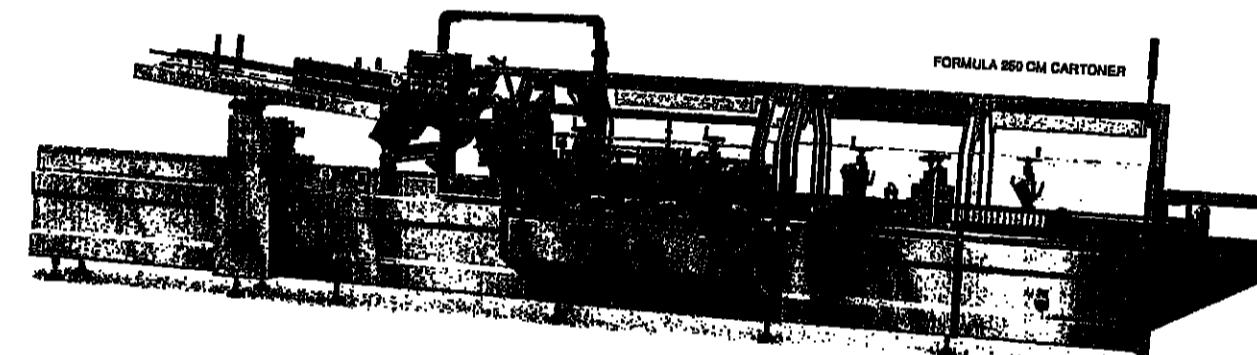
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## Klöckner Bartelt Applies One Proven Formula To Cartoner Design

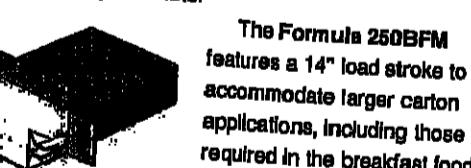


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Now There Are Five Bartelt™ Formula Series Cartoners

In designing the Formula Series Cartoners, Klöckner Bartelt listened to the needs of our worldwide cartoning customers. The result is a full line of Continuous and Intermittent Motion Cartoners providing an array of choices for many packaging applications, while offering flexibility to meet the needs of tomorrow.

From the high speed performance of the Formula 500 to the highly flexible Intermittent motion IMC, there is a Formula Series Cartoner which will meet your



Pharmaceuticals, personal care products and cosmetics which are packaged in smaller cartons are best suited for the high-speed Formula 500. This highly efficient continuous motion cartoner will attain speeds up to 500 cartons per minute.

The Formula 250BFM features a 14" load stroke to accommodate larger carton applications, including those required in the breakfast foods industry. Klöckner Bartelt addresses the need for one-to-one pouch/carton applications, with the Formula MSC125. Specially designed to optimize the output of your packager/cartoner line, the Formula MSC operates at speeds up to 125 cartons per minute, which will efficiently handle the product output of most horizontal and vertical pouch packagers.

For more information on putting Klöckner Bartelt experience to work for you, contact Klöckner Hänsel UK at 0733-60911, ask for Andrew Stephenson.

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application. Each is engineered and constructed to the rigorous standards of Klöckner Bartelt to deliver years of reliable, trouble-free service.

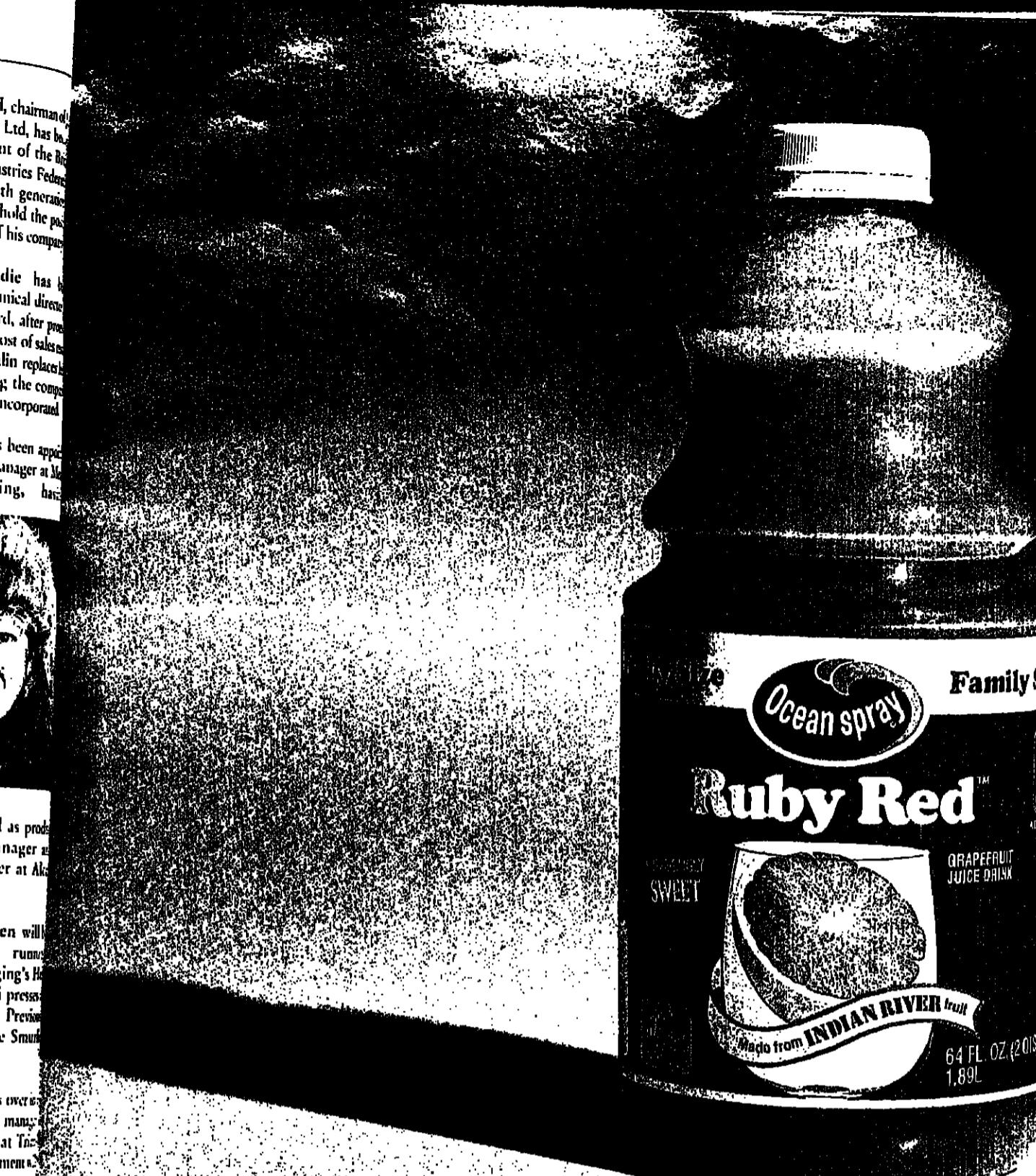
At the heart of the Formula Series is the versatile Formula 250, a continuous motion design ideally suited for mid-size cartons, tubes and multi-component end load cartoning. Specially designed for fast changeover, the Formula 250 has a broad carton size range and more standard features than any other cartoner available today.

For diverse multi-component applications, Formula IMC Cartoners are capable of handling even the most unusual configurations. Operating at speeds up to 75 cartons per minute, the Intermittent motion design allows both automatic and hand feeding options for

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The Chemistry of New Ideas

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**7-11 February**  
Embox Print 94  
International packaging and printing fair, Brno, Czech Republic. John Haigh Services, 1-3 Alwell Road, London SE15 4TW - tel: 071-639 7285

**8-10 February**  
Interflow 94  
Exhibition, G-Mex Centre, Manchester. EMAP Trenton, Beach House, 840 Brighton Road, Purley, Surrey CR8 2BH - tel: 081-650 8098

**9 February**  
Introduction to labels and labelling technology  
Two separate teach-ins, the Grand Hotel Krasnopoly, Amsterdam. Clare Brophy, Co-wrse Management and Training Services - tel: 081-313 3713

**9-11 February**  
VPT  
Packaging technology trade fair, Dortmund, Germany. Westfalenhallen Dortmund, Postfach 10 44 44, Dortmund 46001, Germany - tel: 09 231 120 4521

**10-11 February**  
Product and Image security  
Two-day conference, the Grand Hotel Krasnopoly, Amsterdam. Clare Brophy, event coordinator, Co-wrse Management and Training Services - tel: 081-313 3713

**16-17 February**  
Envirotex '94  
Exhibition and conference on environmental technology, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow. Deborah Watson, Michael Kelly Associates - tel: 041-204 2580

**16-18 February**  
Wastecon/Wastatech  
Exhibition on waste management, recycling, cleansing and effluent control, NEC, Birmingham. Mack-Brooks Exhibitions, Forum Place, Halford, AL10 ORN - tel: 0707 275641

**26-28 February/March**  
Plastindia '94  
International plastics trade fair, New Delhi, INDIA International, Mr Herbert Stark, Postfach 10 10 08, 40001 Düsseldorf - tel: +49 211 4560-721

**27-1 February/March**  
Recycling 1994  
Exhibition, NEC, Birmingham. EMAP International Exhibitions Ltd, 12 Bedford Row, London WC1 - tel: 071-404 4844

**2-3 March**

**National Packaging Plus Exhibition**  
Exhibition, Wembley, London. David Shepherd, AES Events Ltd, 10 High Street, Purley, Surrey CR8 2AA - tel: 081-668 9229, fax: 081-668 9239

**8 March**  
Tertatec  
Trade fair and congress for environmental engineering and environmental protection, Leipzig, Germany. Intech Overseas Fairs Ltd, P O Box 142, Rochester, Kent ME3 7NR - tel: 0474 824098

**8-10 March**  
Creative Packaging Show, NEC, Birmingham. Reed Exhibition Companies (UK), Oriel House, 26 The Quadrant, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1DL - tel: 081-948 9800

**8-10 March**  
Eastpack  
Packaging exhibition, Philadelphia, USA. Reed Exhibition Companies, Oriel House, 26 The Quadrant, Richmond upon Thames, Surrey TW9 1DL - tel: 081-948 9900

**8-10 March**  
Liquidex  
Liquids handling, storage and processing exhibition, Harrogate, DMG Trinity, Times House, Station Approach, Huddersfield, HX4 8NB - tel: 0895 677677

**8-12 March**  
Leipzig Packaging Fair  
Trade fair with symposium on packaging and the environment, Intech Overseas Fairs Ltd, P O Box 142, Rochester, Kent ME3 7NR - tel: 0474 824092

**10-13 March**  
Ipack  
International packaging exhibition, Tel Aviv, Israel. Israeli Trade Fairs Center, P O Box 21075, 61210 Tel Aviv, Israel - tel: 972 3 648 2422

**12-16 March**  
PFPEX Expo  
Printing/Foodtech/Plaspack exhibitions, Guangzhou, China. Adalec Exhibition Services, 21/F, Tung Wai Commercial Building, 109-111 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong - tel: 852 511 0511

**13-17 March**  
Packprint & Paper  
Exhibition, Ho-Chi-Minh City, Vietnam. David Tinsley, exhibition manager, DMG Trinity Ltd, Times House, Stalton

**80039, D-5000 Cologne 80, Germany - tel: 49 221 61 24 18**  
**14-18 March**  
**Baecys '94**  
Conference, Congress Centre Davos, Switzerland. Mack Business Services, Moosacherstrasse 14, CH-8004 Zürich, Switzerland - tel: 01-781 30 40, fax: 01-781-15 69

**15-18 March**  
**ProPak 94**  
Conference, Congress Centre Davos, Switzerland. Mack Business Services, Moosacherstrasse 14, CH-8004 Zürich, Switzerland - tel: 01-781 30 40, fax: 01-781-15 69

**15-18 April**  
**ProPak Asia 94**  
International food processing and packaging exhibition and conference, Singapore. Andy Montgomery Ltd, 11 Manchester Square, London W1M 5AB - tel: 071-466 1951, fax: 071-466 8773

**18-19 April**  
**Upakdex**  
Packaging exhibition, Nizhny Novgorod, Russian Federation - tel: 8312 441 883

**22-24 March**  
**Environmental Technology '94**  
Exhibition, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Sara Burns, Reed Exhibitions, tel: 081-948 9940, or Adrian Wilkes at Environmental Policy Consultants, tel: 071-372 7122

**22-24 March**  
**Danish Packaging Fair '94**  
Trade fair, Odense, Denmark. Tage Christensen, project manager - tel: +45 66 15 55 35

**24-29 March**  
**Ipack-imsa**  
Exhibition of mechanical handling, packing, packaging and food processing machinery, Fiera Milano grounds, Italy. Segreteria Operativa, Ipack-imsa srl, 62 Via C Ravizza, 1 20149 Milano MI - tel: (02) 481 25 65

**6-8 April**  
**Graphitec '94**  
Exhibition, Expo Centre, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. TRI-PEX '94 Plastics & Rubber Exhibition, P O Box 923, Crownhill, Milton Keynes MK8 0AY - tel: 0909 561444

**19-21 April**  
**TRI-PEX '94 Plastics & Rubber Exhibition**  
Exhibition, Expo Centre, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. TRI-PEX '94 Plastics & Rubber Exhibition, P O Box 923, Crownhill, Milton Keynes MK8 0AY - tel: 0909 561444

**19-21 April**  
**Flex Expo**  
Flexible packaging exhibition, Dallas Convention Center, Texas, USA. National Biopharm Exhibitions, Fort Lee Executive Park, One Executive Drive, Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024, USA - tel: 1 800 823 3976

**20-21 April**  
**Packaging strategies**  
Conference, Swissotel Conference Center, Atlanta, USA. Packaging Strategies, 122 South Church Street, West Chester, PA 19382, USA - tel: 215 436 4220

**12-14 April**  
**Solidex '94**  
Solids handling exhibition, Harrogate, David Tinsley, exhibition manager, DMG Trinity Ltd, Times House, Stalton

**18-19 March**  
**Packprint & Paper**  
Exhibition, Ho-Chi-Minh City, Vietnam. David Tinsley, exhibition manager, DMG Trinity Ltd, Times House, Stalton

**2-3 March**

## DIARY

**Approach, Ruskin, Middx HA4 8NB - tel: 0805 677677**  
**12-16 April**  
**ProPak Asia: Food Processing & Packaging**  
Conference, Congress Centre Davos, Switzerland. Mack Business Services, Moosacherstrasse 14, CH-8004 Zürich, Switzerland - tel: 01-781 30 40, fax: 01-781-15 69

**18-22 April**  
**Interphex USA**  
Exhibition, New York - tel: 1 708 390 2420

**24-28 April**  
**IPPF**  
International exhibition of machinery and materials for package processing and production, Seoul, Korea. Read Exhibition Companies - tel: 081-948 9900

**27-28 April**  
**Control and Instrumentation exhibition '94**  
Exhibition, The National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Stephen Ward, Enterprise Public Relations, 165 Kensington High Street, London W8 8SH - tel: 071-938 2319

**13-14 May**  
**Scottish Packaging Plus**  
Show, the Glasgow Marriott Hotel, Anderson, Glasgow. David Shepherd, marketing co-ordinator, AES Events Ltd, 10 High Street, Purley, Surrey CR8 2AA - tel: 081-668 9229

**18-19 May**  
**AgroBalt**  
International trade fair for the agricultural, food and packaging industries, Vilnius, Lithuania. IFW Heidelberg, Landesstr. 1 A, D-69117, Heidelberg, Germany - tel: 49 6221 16 70 43

**20-4 April/May**  
**National International Safe Transit Association conference**  
Conference, Las Vegas. NISTA headquarters - tel: 312 645 0083

**26-31 May**  
**PaPro**  
International trade fair for packaging materials production, paper and film technology, Düsseldorf. Düsseldorf Trade Fair Agency, Charles House, 108-110 Finchley Road, London NW3 5JJ - tel: 0171 794 0166

**2-6 May**  
**Macropak**  
Exhibition, the Utrecht, Jaarbeurs. The Organisers, P O Box 8500, 3503 RM Utrecht, Holland - tel: +31 30 955911

**2-6 May**  
**Allmacq**  
Exhibition, Expo Centre, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. TRI-PEX '94 Plastics & Rubber Exhibition, P O Box 923, Crownhill, Milton Keynes MK8 0AY - tel: 0909 561444

**19-21 April**  
**Flex Expo**  
Flexible packaging exhibition, Dallas Convention Center, Texas, USA. National Biopharm Exhibitions, Fort Lee Executive Park, One Executive Drive, Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024, USA - tel: 1 800 823 3976

**6-8 April**  
**Packaging strategies**  
Conference, Swissotel Conference Center, Atlanta, USA. Packaging Strategies, 122 South Church Street, West Chester, PA 19382, USA - tel: 215 436 4220

**12-14 April**  
**Handling and Storage**  
Exhibition, Harrogate, DMG Trinity, Times House, Station Approach, Ruskin, Middx HA4 8NB - tel: 0895 677677

**20-24 April**  
**Chubu Pack**  
Packaging and food machinery.

**international trade exhibition for food processing and packaging machinery, Nagoya, Japan. Central Japan Packaging and Machinery Builder Association, 2-4-10 Kamelima, Nakamura-Ku, Nagoya 463, Japan - tel: 81 52 452 3162**  
**26-28 April**  
**Interphex USA**  
Exhibition, New York - tel: 1 708 390 2420

**3-7 May**  
**ProPak (Eurotech)**  
International packaging exhibition, Brussels, Foire Internationale de Bruxelles, Parc des Expositions, Place de Belgique, Bruxelles B-1020, Belgium - tel: 32 2 477 0477

**10-12 May**  
**Control and Instrumentation exhibition '94**  
Exhibition, The National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Stephen Ward, Enterprise Public Relations, 165 Kensington High Street, London W8 8SH - tel: 071-938 2319

**13-14 May**  
**Scottish Packaging Plus**  
Show, the Glasgow Marriott Hotel, Anderson, Glasgow. David Shepherd, marketing co-ordinator, AES Events Ltd, 10 High Street, Purley, Surrey CR8 2AA - tel: 081-668 9229

**18-19 May**  
**AgroBalt**  
International trade fair for the agricultural, food and packaging industries, Vilnius, Lithuania. IFW Heidelberg, Landesstr. 1 A, D-69117, Heidelberg, Germany - tel: 49 6221 16 70 43

**20-4 April/May**  
**National International Safe Transit Association conference**  
Conference, Las Vegas. NISTA headquarters - tel: 312 645 0083

**26-31 May**  
**PaPro**  
International trade fair for packaging materials production, paper and film technology, Düsseldorf. Düsseldorf Trade Fair Agency, Charles House, 108-110 Finchley Road, London NW3 5JJ - tel: 0171 794 0166

**2-6 May**  
**Macropak**  
Exhibition, the Utrecht, Jaarbeurs. The Organisers, P O Box 8500, 3503 RM Utrecht, Holland - tel: +31 30 955911

**19-21 April**  
**Handling and Storage**  
Exhibition, Harrogate, DMG Trinity, Times House, Station Approach, Ruskin, Middx HA4 8NB - tel: 0895 677677

**20-24 April**  
**Chubu Pack**  
Packaging and food machinery.

**international trade exhibition for food processing and packaging machinery, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Alcantara Machado Feitas E Promocoes, Rua Brasilia Maciada 60, Cep-01330 Sao Paulo, Brazil - tel: 55 11 626 9111**  
**3-7 May**  
**ProPak (Eurotech)**  
International packaging exhibition, Brussels, Foire Internationale de Bruxelles, Parc des Expositions, Place de Belgique, Bruxelles B-1020, Belgium - tel: 32 2 477 0477

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**20-24 April**  
**Chubu Pack**  
Packaging and food machinery.

**2-6 May**  
**Allmacq**  
Exhibition, Expo Centre, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. TRI-PEX '94 Plastics & Rubber Exhibition, P O Box 923, Crownhill, Milton Keynes MK8 0AY - tel: 0909 561444

**19-21 April**  
**Flex Expo**  
Flexible packaging exhibition, Dallas Convention Center, Texas, USA. National Biopharm Exhibitions, Fort Lee Executive Park, One Executive Drive, Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024, USA - tel: 1 800 823 3976

**6-8 April**  
**Packaging strategies**  
Conference, Swissotel Conference Center, Atlanta, USA. Packaging Strategies, 122 South Church Street, West Chester, PA 19382, USA - tel: 215 436 4220

**12-14 April**  
**Solidex '94**  
Solids handling exhibition, Harrogate, David Tinsley, exhibition manager, DMG Trinity Ltd, Times House, Stalton

**18-19 March**  
**Packprint & Paper**  
Exhibition, Ho-Chi-Minh City, Vietnam. David Tinsley, exhibition manager, DMG Trinity Ltd, Times House, Stalton

**2-3 March**

**Approach, Ruskin, Middx HA4 8NB - tel: 0805 677677**

## PACKAGING NEWS

# Ldpe sleeves for skin care

for an accurate sleeve size. They are then supplied as single, cut pieces.</





The robotic system allows tubes of toothpaste, cosmetics or foods to be loaded directly into packs

## Cartonless tube installations

The move to cartonless tube packing - spurred initially by German demands for reduced packaging to meet its Packaging Ordinance requirements - has resulted in ten of the sixteen TSR machines, ordered from IWK, being installed.

First installation was at Wybert, Germany a year ago which was a first generation machine that handles cartons in a horizontal format only. All other machines are the latest generation design which, via a

robotic system, can place tubes in any orientation required - vertically, horizontally or nested top to base.

This version, the TSR cartonless packaging system, was launched at Interpack and depending on format, packaging material costs can be halved and pallets loaded with twice as many tubes, says IWK's UK and Ireland agent Sussex and Berkshire Machinery Co Ltd (Blacknest, Alton, Hants GU34 4PX - tel: 0420

22669, fax: 22687).

Fifteen of the tube filling and packing lines are handling toothpaste with Elida Gibbs in Germany being the one exception. They are packing its nail-care, haircream and Ponds facwash products.

Elida Gibbs supplies products in cardboard trays for the German market and in plastics trays for the French and British retailers and the company required a machine that could cope with either tray type with

the minimum of changeover time. The IWK equipment offers the option of a cardboard tray erector module or fitting a plastics tray denester.

Outside Germany, StafforMiller in Ireland has just commissioned a line which will be handling its Sensodyne toothpaste, while at StafforMiller in Plymouth, a line due to go in this July will be supplying the whole of Europe with this product.

The TSR system accepts tubes, typically in two streams from a twin head filler, shingles the two streams and then loads the tubes into a collation conveyor with fitments that

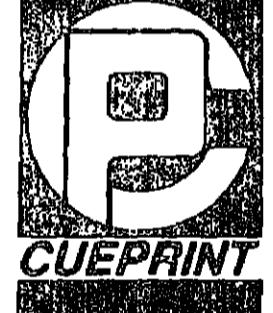
maintain the shingling. This conveyor indexes below the robot which, once the desired number of tubes for a complete layer or row has been accumulated, lifts the collation by vacuum cups. For horizontal loading the layer is simply moved forward and down; for vertical packaging the head rotates through 90 degrees.

The robot - which is manufactured by IWK sister company Kuka - is equipped with a software package which enables it to be programmed by any IBM-compatible pc.

For further information K2 410 Call for details 0838 77228



Many formats of transit and display packs can be achieved by IWK's TSR Cartonless Packaging System



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PACKAGING NEWS/FEBRUARY 1994

Parkside Flexible Packaging Ltd (0532 713963) intends to seek a listing on the London Stock Exchange by means of a placing within the first quarter of 1994. Pre-tax profits rose to £1.8 million in 1993, on turnover of £21.9 million. Parkside's sponsor and stockbroker is Panmure Gordon & Co Ltd.

Interconsult UK Ltd (021-355 1153) has set up its first subsidiary outside the UK in Valencia, eastern Spain. Interconsult España has been established by Richard Calder and aims to encourage Spanish businesses to know and understand UK and northern European markets and improve trading within the Single Market. Its services will include packaging development and technology transfer advice.

Mydrin Ltd has formed three companies in India, Singapore and Australia to meet the growing demand for its EVA hot melt adhesives for the packaging industry, as well as for textile coatings and footwear products in the Far East.

Tesco has installed a 4301 Universal Testing Instrument from Instron (081-338 1282) equipped with environmental chamber, which will play a key role in ensuring the quality of the wide range of plastics and paper products sold to its recently opened Technical Centre in Cheshunt.

Burford Research Consultants (0628 484118) is the first UK company to be accredited by NAMAS with ISO EN 28317 for testing child resistant packaging. BRC has nearly 30 years experience of child research.

Lawtons Ltd (051-227 1212) will become the exclusive UK distributor for Kalfass Packaging Machinery, the German manufacturer of shrinkwrap, tray packing and cartoning machines. The business will be known as Lawco-Kalfass and be headed by Daniel Lamble. Lawco-Kalfass will take full responsibility for all aspects of sales and marketing, installation, service and spare parts for both new equipment and existing systems.

Pifa, the Packaging and Industrial Films Association (0602 422445) has moved its offices from central Nottingham to 2 Mayfair Court, Northgate, New Basford, Nottingham NG7 7GR.

APV plc has sold its 100 percent shareholding in Douglas Machine Corporation to Minnesota Limited Liability Corporation for a cash consideration of \$28.9 million. Net cash of approximately \$6.9 million was retained by Douglas. APV said the proceeds of the sale will be used to reduce debts.

Noten Ltd (0532 779504) has been appointed the agent for the Italian CAMA Group. Noten will provide CAMA's CL Cartoner range of horizontal end-load cartoning machines that use a central drive shaft in place of chain and belt drives.

Italidipack Spa, the Italian shrink machinery manufacturer, has given sole distribution agreements to Murray Packaging Ltd (041-946 2229) in Scotland and Sontex Machinery Ltd (0274 872299) in the rest of the UK for its products. It is the company's first venture into the UK market. Italidipack machines will complement the companies' existing ranges of shrinkwrapping systems with both high speed automatic L sealers and simple combined seal/shrink units.

Riverwood International Corporation, the US paperboard, packaging and packaging machinery company, and Dancap Holding A/S have set up a joint-venture company based in Denmark to serve the Scandinavian beverage market with machinery based systems for beverage and food packaging applications.

company paperwrapped or stretch-wrapped its pallets of laminated board products. Congleton has made the switch to seaway packaging. It required full weather protection and pallet load stability.

Paktek International (0203 223146) has won the sole UK and Republic of Ireland agency for Nagema, the German manufacturer of machinery and equipment for the drinks and liquids industries. Paktek says the deal is due to the economic effects of the collapse of the Eastern block. Part of the deal involves Nagema training Paktek staff.

Erich Brauckmann, managing director of Nagema, says: "We used to be one of the most important manufacturers in the former Socialist Europe selling hundreds of bottling lines to Russia, China and also recently opened Technical Centres in Czestochowa.

The equipment replaces a test system installed in 1982 at the old laboratories. David Bolton, senior materials technician, says the Instron system "is easy to operate, accurate and able to carry out tests at 50-250deg C."

AssiDomän

is the name of the new Swedish group that has been formed following the merger of ASSI and Domän. AssiDomän will be privatised during the Spring and then make a bid for Ncb. Production will be focused on packaging materials and packaging made of paper.

Orion Machinery Ltd (0463 880881) has acquired the Daleron range of web handling equipment and Daverstar the machinery maker for business forms production from Orion Holdings plc.

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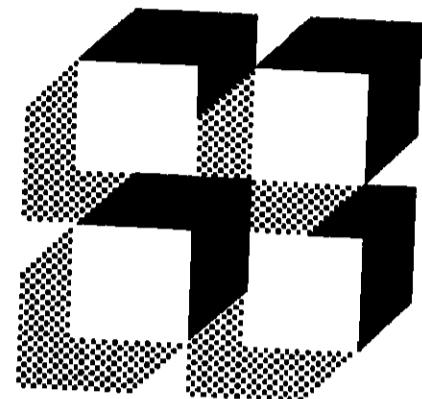
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# PACKAGING NEWS

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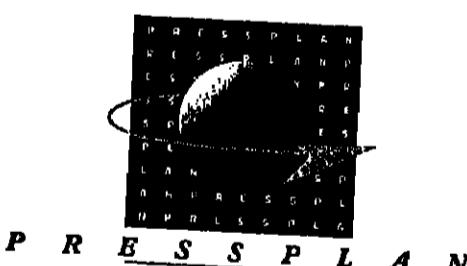
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## PACKAGING NEWS

Maclean Hunter Ltd., Maclean Hunter House,  
Chalk Lane, Cockfosters Road, Barnet, Herts. EN4 0BU

A Maclean Hunter Publication

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268

## Stretchfilm savings

A 14 micron hand stretchfilm, said to have the strength of a 17 micron film has been launched by Wiggins Teape Packaging.

According to the company, significant savings can be made by customers using the film for hand pallet wrapping rather than using larger quantities of thinner film to achieve the same pallet stability.

"We recognise the need to help our customers save on the amount of stretchfilm they use, and this is one major step forward in achieving this," says Stephanie Emio, marketing manager at Wiggins Teape (PO Box 88, Gateway House, Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants - tel: 0256 842020, fax: 843447).

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268

## Bottleneck unblocked

A bottleneck between production and packing on a french-fry line in Denmark has been overcome with the installation of a fully automatic line from Piepenbrock, including a Hastamat weighing and bagging machine.

Mounted on a vibration-free chassis, the Hastamat CP 1.10 multihead weigher is used for sorting batches of 750g, 1kg and 2.5kg at Flensted as. When the throughput is 3000kg an hour, weighing accuracy is put at 0.5g, so inaccuracies are minimised.

Beneath the weigher, a Hastamat R350 MP bags individual volumes of up to 12.5l. Heat-sealing as well as welding can be used on pe or aluminium films.

Controls for the tubular bag machine and weigher are

combined on a single display, with data transferred to a central production control system.

"We were especially impressed by the very clearly arranged operator's display giving easy step-by-step instructions," says Knud Knudsen, production director at Flensted.

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packer, with bottom and top flaps sealed with hotmelt. Further checkweighing ensures the correct number of bags have gone into each case, says Piepenbrock (1 Lannoversche Straße 91-95, Postfach 34 49, D-4909 Osnabrück, Germany - tel: 0511 58410, fax: 5841906).

Before reaching the packing line, potatoes are automatically peeled, cut, checked for defects, boiled and cooled or frozen in a tunnel. Prior to the installation of the fully automatic line, weighing and filling of pack contents could not keep up with production.

Flensted produces 10 million kilos of french fries and 8 million kilos of peeled potatoes a year at its plant.

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268

## Low cost filling combination gives accuracy

Low-cost automatic filling can be easily acquired by combining an indexing conveyor and single-head filler - both available from ABA-Alite - says the company.

According to ABA-Alite, its AB25 automatic indexing conveyor system can be used with the AB6 auger filling unit to create a fully automatic system, which the company calls AB50. A twin-head version - the 150 - is also available with two AB6 units. Prices are said to be two-thirds to three-quarters those of comparable competitive equipment.

Accuracy on the AB range, which can be used for powders or granules, is said to be  $\pm 1$  per cent, with capacity from only a few grammes. A robust, hygienic structure and a simple drive mechanism are other advantages of the system.

ABA-Alite also has high-speed container handling sys-

tems and specialities in face powder and eye-shadow companies. Delivery times can be kept short, says the company (22 Such Close Ind. Estate, Letchworth, Herts - tel: 0462 480166, fax: 481256). Automation of other

a container lift facility is also optional for bottom-up filling.

Progressive automation is possible, the company points out, without redundancy of existing equipment. Container handling can be designed for flexibility, while changepart requirements are said to remain low.

ABA-Alite also has high-speed container handling sys-

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ABA-Alite also has high-speed container handling sys-

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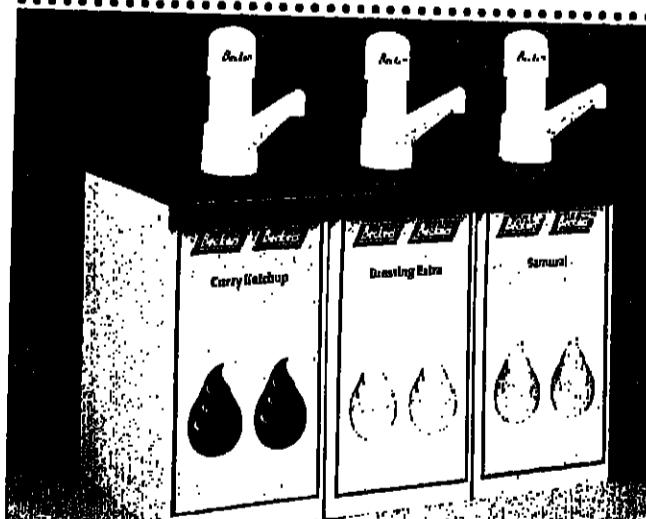
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## Case/pallet system can be flat-packed

An integrated case and pallet system using only corrugated board, and capable of being flat-packed for transit and storage, is available from Canadian company Containercraft.

Advantages of the Keypac system include its monomaterial composition, low weight and simple assembly, says designer Raymond Keys. The system is ideal for bulk packaging of small items, he says.

The pallet-bottom sheet is assembled separately, then combined with the flaps of



The FND30 pump dispenser from Englass gives hygiene benefits

## Easy-to-clean valve

Hygiene benefits offered by an easy-clean valve were key to the choice of the Englass FND30 dispenser by Belgian sauce manufacturer Beckers, Essen nv.

Beckers required a dispenser for its five litre bag-in-box range and, after tests of the various options on the market, decided that the Englass model was the easiest to dismantle and clean. Products include particulates, and Englass took this into account in the version of the dispenser supplied to Becker.

"To achieve the company's requirements we made some

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## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

## Plastics separation project

A Pira-led consortium has won a £1 million grant from the European Commission to develop a system for identifying and separating plastics in mixed wastes.

At the end of three years, Pira is expected to have a pilot plant up and running, which will be able to make at least 100 identifications a second and sort plastics at speeds of up to 10 articles a second.

"We have worked on most common plastics, but the system will in principle be applicable to any type of plastic and the number of tracers is unlimited. It could be applied very easily to packaging," says Philip Tice of Pira's packaging research department.

The consortium will develop tracers that identify the different types of plastics and manufacture a range of plastics containers which hold the tracers. Other partners in the project include: Bayer in Germany, Cranfield University, Newell Engineering, the Laboratoire Nationale d'Essais in France and the Apme.

Pira (0872 376161) is also looking for industry sponsors to provide some funding towards the project.

## Pilot scheme backs up eps transit choice

Hoover's choice of eps rather than board for transit packaging to protect its white goods is being backed up by a pilot recycling scheme at one of its distribution centres.

The relatively small proportion of eps collected from direct domestic deliveries by Hoover rather than by high street retailers is shipped back to its two distribution centres at Merthyr and Manchester.

At Merthyr a pilot scheme is recycling the used eps, which is then sold on for use as building insulation.

### System reappraised

Hoover used to source fibreboard for transit protection but, the company tells PN, high stock returns because of damage led to a reappraisal of this system. "The opportunity was taken to review alternatives from an environmental perspective," says a spokesperson. Figures suggested that eps recycling could be more energy efficient than fibre.

Since Hoover adopted eps and shrinkwrap for transit, stock returns have been reduced, says the company.

A PSRA directory of ps recyclers in the UK is available from the BPF (6 Bath Place,

recycling and markets for the reprocessed product in the UK, as can be seen from Hoover's inability to date to recycle waste returned to its Manchester distribution centre. Instead it is simply compacted and sent to landfill.

Converters and recyclers of ps and eps in the UK have been stressing the recyclability of their product, and are determined to strengthen the infrastructure in this country. The Polystyrene Recycling Association (PSRA), which groups companies recycling all forms of ps, is also involved in looking at other options, including incineration for energy recovery.

Some 10 per cent of eps packaging in the UK is recycled, the BPF (British Plastics Federation) estimates, expecting this figure to rise as new markets are stimulated.

"Recycling is an important waste management option for eps transit packaging and we actively encourage it wherever it is economically and environmentally viable," says Dick Hills, chairman of the federation's eps packaging group.

A PSRA directory of ps recyclers in the UK is available from the BPF (6 Bath Place,

Rivington Street, London EC2A 3JE - tel: 071-457 5000, fax: 071-457 5018).

Companies such as Hoover have been reassured by a recent environmental agreement involving, says the BPF, 70 per cent of the world's producers

**Technologies for all materials will be showcased at Recycling '94 later this month. Here we also examine progress with plastics collection, sorting and reprocessing in the UK.**

of eps transit packaging.

This grouping has set out to combat misconceptions in some quarters about the acceptability of eps transit packaging in parts of Europe in particular.

Signatories of the agreement included the major raw

material suppliers, manufacturers of eps from all over Europe, Japan and the US as well as industry associations. The forum was hosted by the BPF's eps group, now spearheading efforts to approach and inform on their own ground decision makers around the world.



Eps transit packaging is establishing its environmental credentials

## Timber alternative

Problems over what to do with the large volumes of eps packaging used by Sony Manufacturing have largely been overcome by the introduction of a programme run at its plant in South Wales by Save Wood Products, which makes a timber alternative from eps. The company is also close to signing a deal with an electronics company in the UK for a similar venture.

Sony has installed a baler which densifies the eps at a rate of 400 kilos an hour with a volume reduction of 50:1, so that lorry loads of 20 tonnes are transported at a time to Save Wood's Isle of Wight plant and turned into the firm's Durawood timber alternative.

"This has done away with haulage and storage costs traditionally associated with eps packaging," says Robert Billson, Save Wood Products Ltd (The Old Riggers Loft, Marina Walk, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7AY - tel: 0983 29935, fax: 299069).

Currently moving to 30,000 sq m premises, the company will also be opening a plant on the mainland later in the year and is now installing additional equipment so that it has five compound lines and five profile lines.

At the first stage the baler reduces the eps, then it is compressed into a plastics bead

## European targets will be addressed

European Union recycling targets and their effect on the packaging industry are just one of the issues to be addressed at the Recycling '94 exhibition and conference which will take place at the NEC in Birmingham February 27-March 1.

Exhibitors from around the globe displaying a range of recycling solutions for plastics, textiles, metals, glass paper and chemicals are expected to attend and the programme aims to meet the needs of retailers, manufacturers, local authorities and waste management companies.

The event is being sponsored by Materials and Recyclers Weekly and Plastics & Rubber Weekly.

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268



The exhibition features case studies from Boots the Chemist

## Joining forces on pet collection

Pet resin producers and bottle converters have joined forces to form a new association Percore (Pet Container Recycling Europe) which will work together to increase collection, recovery and recycling of pet containers across Europe (c/o Apme, Ave E Van Nieuwenhuysse 4 Box 5, B-1160 Brussels, Belgium - tel: 010 32 2 675 3297, fax: 010 322 675 39 35).

One of the association's main aims is to comply with the recovery target of 50 per cent set under the proposed European Union's packaging directive.

Vince Matthews, a former executive director of the Apme's environmental unit, says he is aware of the many discrepancies that exist across Europe. "At the moment we are a long way off reaching the EU target as under 5 per cent is recycled."

Dr Matthews who will be co-ordinating the association's activities across Europe, tells PN that he is already working with collection bodies and authorities across Europe. "The ability to collect is the slowest part. The European recycling capacity is way above what is collected. We don't want Pet-

core to exist in perpetuity."

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The Garden of Worldly Delights (Hell), by Hieronymus Bosch 1480-1516. With thanks to The Prado, Madrid. Oil and Tempera on panel. Reprinted on Trucard 240 gsm.



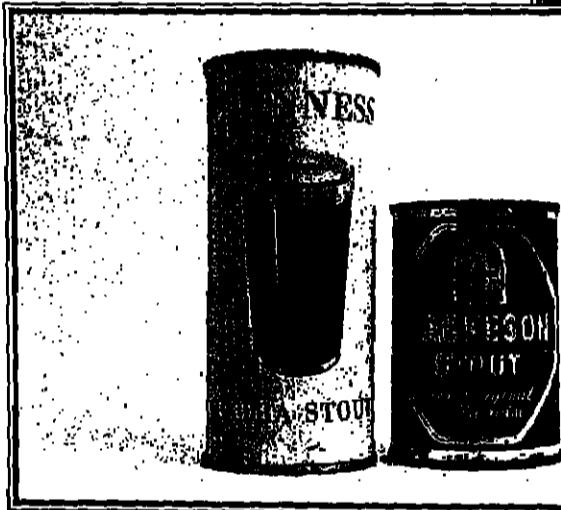
## NEW TECHNOLOGY AND NEW MARKETS!

# 1954

To report concisely and promptly significant developments in all branches of packaging - this was stated as the mission that

Packaging News set itself at its launch in 1954, and there was plenty around to be concise and prompt about.

Many of the names that appeared on our pages then can still be found in Packaging News now: Cryovac bags were featured in the June '55 issue; Viskrings were shown around a Sarsen's Virgin Vinegar jar in the same month. The "Società Anonima GD" and Branigk were among the exhibitors at the Packaging Exhibition previewed at the beginning of the same year.



**IN 1955 CANS FOR BEER WERE TURNING TO FLAT-TOPPED TINPLATE DESIGNS TO REPLACE "THE FAMILIAR CONE-TOPPED CAN", WHILE ARGUMENT RAGED AS TO HOW METAL AFFECTED FLAVOUR**

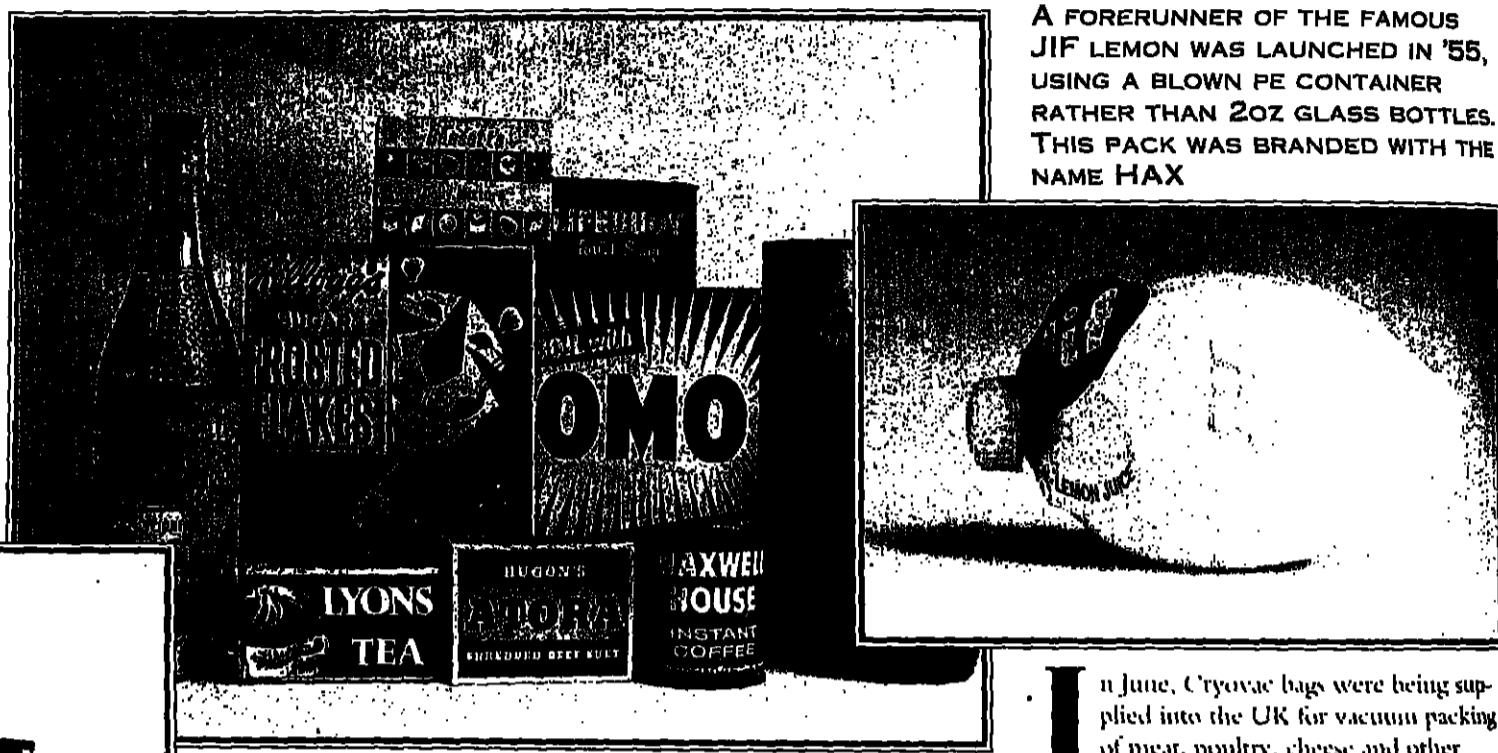
Held at Olympia and sponsored by the Institute of Packaging, the Packaging Exhibition attracted 193 exhibitors. There was exhilaration at the end of rationing with, according to the journal, supplies of tinplate, film, paper and board still falling short of demand. Also noted was an increasing openness to foreign competitor companies. PN was a little hesitant when it looked back on the show. "Packaging Exhibition was successful, well organised, well attended, but was it a day or two too long?" ran the incisive headline.

An increase in the bank rate prompted a CONSUMER PACKS REFLECTED INCREASING DEMAND FOR COLOUR OUTSIDE AND VARIETY INSIDE

**By the end of 1955, after one and a half years in existence, Packaging News had driven its circulation up to 11,000 and was serving a post-war industry which was increasingly quick to invent, keen to invest and turning outward to the wider world.**

# 1955

A FORERUNNER OF THE FAMOUS JIF LEMON WAS LAUNCHED IN '55, USING A BLOWN PE CONTAINER RATHER THAN 2OZ GLASS BOTTLES. THIS PACK WAS BRANDED WITH THE NAME HAX



PRODUCTS LAUNCHED IN THE SAME YEAR AS PN IN RESPONSE TO BOOMING CONSUMER DEMAND INCLUDED MAXWELL HOUSE INSTANT COFFEE AND OMO

drop in stock exchange prices: Bowater Paper fell by 4s3d, Wiggins Teape by 3s6d and AE Reed by 7s6d. The price of tinsplate steadied at £2 19s 7d a ton.

There were potential case studies in abundance about how bad packaging was costing companies money. PN was almost moral in its tone when showing 'before and after' in an enamelled goods warehouse: "...the nest collapses. Damage follows disorder."

Later in '55 rumours circulated about the possibility of Tetra Pak coming to the UK with its classic tetrahedron carton. A Mr Fortescue of the Milk Marketing Board (remember that?) was convinced that the Tetra Pak system had advantages over other cartons. "The comparative cheapness of the pack is owed mainly to the small amount of paper which is needed to make it," PN said.

In June, Cryovac bags were being supplied into the UK for vacuum packing of meat, poultry, cheese and other products. Figures from the USA spoke for themselves: "About 75 per cent of all frozen, eviscerated turkeys are marketed in Cryovac bags there."

Beer to be packed in flat-topped cans rather than conical-topped cans or bottles included Guinness. The packs, supplied by the Metal Box Co, thoughtfully came with two top piercers provided for every 24-can carton.

Feeding of containers by hand for filling on a Kalix Dupuy machine was replaced with an automatic feeder from the Flexible Metal Company, said to double throughput.

"The company will fit the jar-feeder for £10, plus any travelling or transport expenses." The attachment cost £250.

AN EARLY EXAMPLE OF 1950s FORMED PLASTICS FOR VINOLIA BABY POWDER



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## Hot ink coding control

Hot ink coding onto a large print area with close temperature control is offered in a system from Anglo-American Packaging Technology (APT), to be shown by the company for the first time in the UK at the National Packaging Plus Exhibition.

With a print area of 50mm x 50mm, the TC70 is said to have the largest print area on a machine of its kind. It is fitted with full electronic stepper-motor control and can be used in continuous or intermittent operation.

According to APT, the TC70 can code in any of four standard ink colours at speeds of up to 70m a minute. Minimum package length is 82mm.

Signals for coding can be activated by micro-switch or proximity switch depending on the type of packaging machine the system is fitted to and the type of pack. A further option is a photoelectric cell for print registration.

Control is key to the efficiency of the system, with print position held to within ±0.4mm and temperature to within

±1deg C.

"The temperature setting on the digital display never actually varies, though within that it may fluctuate within half a degree or so. This means the user gets maximum life out of the hot rolls," says sales manager Bruce Adair.

The single head can also

print two different texts within one pack length, says APT (Boxwrap House, Westfield Road Industrial Estate, Southam, Warwickshire CV33 0JH - tel: 0926 814477; fax: 812442).

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268

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LABELLING, CODING AND MARKING

## Pc control allows multiple reset of medical inkjet printer lines

Rocialle Medical Ltd is using a LINXnet to control six inkjet printers for putting pack names, contents, batch and catalogue numbers, expiry and dates of manufacture onto medical preparation packs at a rate of 4000 an hour.

At its Cambridge plant, three printers are installed on each of two lines fed by Multi-vac thermoformers producing packs three at a time.

"We have some 400 different products and so changeovers are frequent," says Edward Dunlop, works director at Rocialle.

"Whereas it would take roughly two minutes to reset

each printer separately, each bank of three can now be reset in little more than that time. The flexibility of the system also means that it is possible to programme each bank of printers to handle one, two, or even three different products." Mr Dunlop points out.

The LINXnet multi printer pc based control system supplied by Linx Printing Technologies plc (Burrell Road, St. Ives, Cambs PE17 4LE - tel: 0480 300755, fax: 495093) enables Rocialle to control the printers from a single pc and has achieved considerable savings in set-up, changeover, problem solving

and the compilation of management information.

Up to 30 printers can be controlled by a single operator who can carry out a range of procedures including start-up and shutdown with the system.

**"Called up on screen"**

Mr Dunlop estimates the pay-back period to be within a year. Rocialle has worked with Linx to enhance the software so that each product catalogue number can be called up on screen, a feature that is now included as standard in the

LINXnet package. Linx says the penetration achieved by inkjet printers in the packaging industry combined with the advanced technology of the printers has resulted in manufacturers developing the integration of printers more closely into production line processes.

For further information **K2** Call for details 1300 0839 772268

**Linxnet, from Linx Printing Technologies: a central computer allows up to 30 printers to be controlled by a single operator, who can carry out a range of procedures**



Denny Twin-Form leaflet labels on vending machine cans of milk  
**Leaflet labels for vending**

Aidap Marketing's adoption of Twin-Form leaflet labels on a sales promotion for the Milk Marketing Board, is believed to be the first use of these labels on vending machine products.

The Twin-Forms are a variation on the Fix-a-Form labels manufactured by Denny Bros Printing Ltd (Mildenhall Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk - tel:

0284 701381, fax: 705575), and are applied to one in five cans of plain and flavoured milk available from each vending machine. Each leaflet label incorporates an instant-win free gift coupon and more than 7000 of the three-colour 90gsm art paper labels are being used.

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The specifications for our standard colours are as follows:

Red:	$L^* = 50.18$	$a^* = +51.11$	$b^* = +33.73$
Green:	$L^* = 47.02$	$a^* = +55.46$	$b^* = +11.06$
Blue:	$L^* = 55.83$	$a^* = -36.71$	$b^* = -47.16$

The tolerance specification for all colours is by CMC,  $\Delta E$  ratio of 2.1 and  $c_f = 1.2$ . Colour specifications and tolerances were established using the X-Rite 938 Spectrodensitometer and QA-Master software.

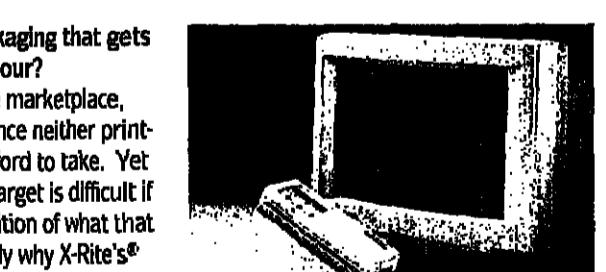
The report format we prefer is the format generated by X-Rite's QA-Master software. We have enclosed a sample report for your information.

We anticipate having our new colour control system in place by the end of the month, and request your full cooperation at that time.

Yours sincerely,  
David Mullaney  
Laurie Mullaney Associates Ltd.

Laurie Mullaney  
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# In-store tagging security solutions

**How far away is a universal source-labelled product security tagging system? Opinions differ, but the pace of trials to combat shoplifting is increasing in a marketplace where retailers stand to save billions of pounds. Paul Gander reports.**

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covert EAS systems now available, and has not committed itself to using any one of these. Results of the trials are not expected until some time in 1995. Meanwhile, impatience is growing within the EAS Manufacturers' Association (EASMA) at the slow progress of the CEST programme towards firm conclusions. "We feel that a lot of retailers are holding off investing in any one system until CEST op-

for definitely one," says Peter White for the association.

According to EASMA, retailers could begin actively looking for their own systems without necessarily compromising the long-term goal of universal source labelling. If CEST comes down in favour of a standard type of electro-magnetic tag, other systems could migrate towards it.

It seems likely that an intermediate stage on the route

to a universal system will be a mix of a few distinct systems concentrated on well defined sectors such as music retailing, food and dry, as more and more of the available technology is taken up by stores.

At that point there will be just the sort of cross-over between sectors which could cause problems and which manufacturers - responsible for the different types of source tagging - would like to avoid.

One company that has organised its own UPP trials in the US is the Sensormatic Electronics Corporation. Initial attention has centred on the music retail business, and tests are now underway in the Camelot Music chain of stores, the third largest retailer of tapes and discs in the US.

This acousto-magnetic Ultramax system is said to be virtually false-alarm free, a feature which is as important for retailers as the guarantee of detection when there is a theft, since false alarms can deter bona fide customers. The trials in music stores follow an agreement among retailer groups in the sector to standardise on technology.

Diy in the UK looks as if it could be the first sector to standardise with a single system, and this is likely to be an acousto-magnetic one.

"Aiming to accelerate"

of the three main types of technology available in EAS, the best known to date is probably Radio Frequency Tagging (RFT), which is traditionally used in the bulky and expensive units attached in-store to high value articles of clothing.

The other two techniques - acousto-magnetic and electro-magnetic - both lend themselves to more discreet applications and involve cheaper unit costs. Sensormatic's UPP (Universal Product Protection) programme involves acousto-magnetic technology, but the company also has its electro-magnetic and RFT systems.

Several trials are taking place in the UK. Sainsbury has been carrying out trials at its Vauxhall, London branch with electro-magnetic tags on a variety of high-value products. In this case the tags, supplied by Esette Meto (0753 810535), have been visible.

Esette is one of a handful of EAS companies operating in the UK all of which are keen to gain a competitive edge over each other as the retailers they hope to supply.

Working most closely with CEST up to now has been Knogo (0628 486414), but the centre stresses the variety of

Tom Parr, UPP programme manager at Sensormatic International in the UK (0142 212003), sees a universal system as being still several years off. "It's got to be a technology that is applicable to all trading styles," he says. According to Mr Parr, the type of outlet will determine the kind of detection pedestal - An example of Sensormatic's A-Technology

A-Technology

and hence the kind of system - which can be used.

While source labelling in Sensormatic is centering on acousto-magnetic, Mr Parr agrees that electro-magnetic is probably the most appropriate format for some outlets where a checkout system is used.

Source labelling is being sold to retailers as a way of allowing more open merchandising and so increased sales, freeing staff from the need to apply tags while being an effective deterrent against internal as well as external theft.

At the same time, retailers will not have anything to do with systems which create as many problems as they solve. It has been known for a

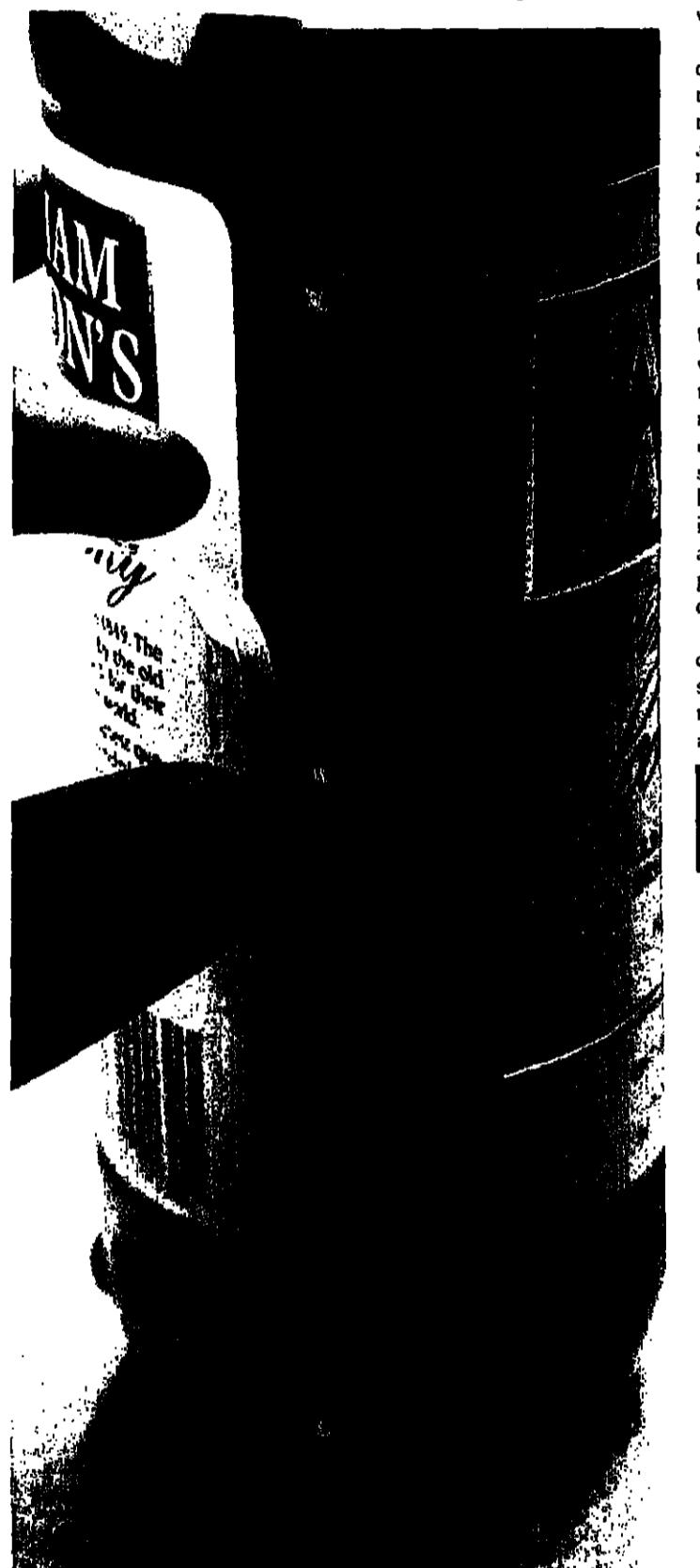
wrongly installed EAS system to bring down a store's entire Electronic Point of Sale (epos) equipment.

For manufacturers and packers, being able to offer source labelling for security is being presented as an added value service which will in time give them a competitive edge.

According to CEST, an

important criterion is remote switchability. If contact with individual tags is necessary to activate or deactivate them, the centre argues, the system will be inefficient for supermarkets and larger stores.

Details about its Retail Crime Initiative and research findings can be obtained from the BRC (071-371 5185).



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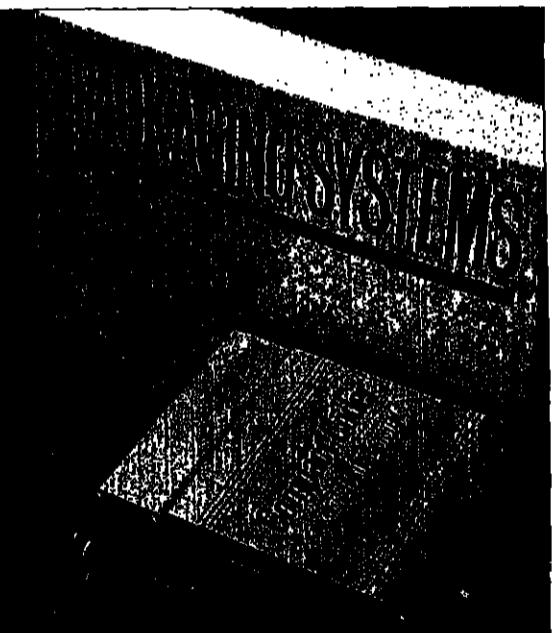
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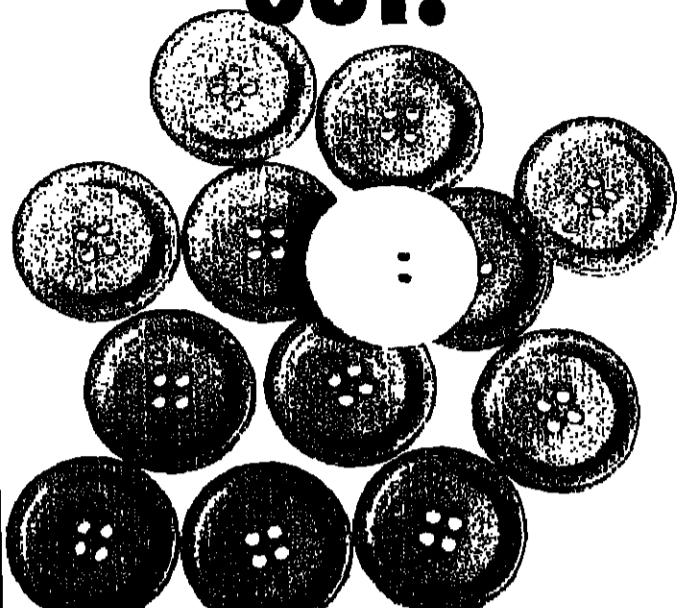
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## Shopping by scanner



Customers scan barcode labels with laser radio terminal guns

CBS Wholesale, the independent specialist wholesaler of toiletries and chemists sundries, has installed what is believed to be the first barcode-based radio frequency product selection system in a retail outlet in the UK supplied by BPCC Numeric Arts.

"Our objective was to improve our customer service, making cash and carry shopping easier and more efficient, by eliminating the traditional problems and headaches associated with it," Mike Hayward, systems manager at CBS, tells *Packaging News*.

Whereas before customers took two to three hours to do

Numeric Arts md Barry

their shopping, now they enter a showroom with all the products on display and with a laser radio terminal (LRT) gun scan the shelf-edge barcode labels of the products they wish to purchase. "Our customers only have to wait 15 minutes now. All their goods are ready for them and are loaded or delivered," says Geoff Clarke, CBS md.

The showroom carries samples of every product presented in its retail packaging rather than in box or shrinkwrapping. This stops pilfering, while allowing customers to handle and examine the products, says Mr Hayward.

CBS has set a two-year payback period on the system.

Jervis tells *PN*: "Once the system is perfected at CBS, the company will be looking to expand into the retail and warehousing sector."

Numeric Arts (First Avenue, Globe Park, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1YA - tel: 0628 487000, fax: 487006) is currently discussing installing similar equipment at other retail outlets.

On entering the site, each customer is given an LRT gun which is then programmed with his or her account, particular profit return details and loading bay number.

Any products that do not have a manufacturing code are given one for the warehouse by CBS. "Nowadays around 80 per cent of our sales already have a manufacturing code. In 1982 only 10 per cent of goods were coded," he says.

Mr Jervis says the design and installation of the equipment was easy, the only problems being where to put the antennae and the base stations.

When CBS customers were warned about the changes, "some of the old die-hards moaned", says Mr Clarke. "But so far we have not had one complaint and even the old die-hards have been converted."

When production tracking went down to nil and accuracy was 100 per cent. The unique barcode serial number on each pc and order enabled us to pinpoint its destination"

Modifications will allow customers to call up a record of what they have ordered and how much they have spent on the gun's mini screen.

"We chose Numeric Arts because the guns are a good shape and also fairly rugged for warehouse handling, as well as being easy to use," says Mr Hayward. Initial difficulties with the system included problems with the guns and the radio frequency.

Stocktaking is also undertaken with the scanners, which has improved efficiency.

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When production tracking went down to nil and accuracy was 100 per cent. The unique barcode serial number on each pc and order enabled us to pinpoint its destination"

on hard disc as well as on paper.

Real time work in progress

has been achieved with this

code system. At any given

time, the status of all machines

in progress is correct within

## Barcode system stops production tracking errors

Viglen Computers noticed an immediate change after it had installed a barcode labelling system supplied by Bar Code Systems into its production system.

Armand Abramian Viglen's production manager says: "Errors in production tracking went down to nil and accuracy was 100 per cent. The unique barcode serial number on each pc and order enabled us to pinpoint its original destination"

Each stage of production is assigned a barcoded flag which has to be scanned and this then prompts the operative to input the correct information. A pass/fail prompt allows him to continue to the next stage or reminds him to correct any faults. Only when the particular stage is passed as valid can

the operative move on to the next stage.

Currently there are 48 different flags, which allow for exact pinpointing of a machine in the factory. The first flag prompts the operative to key in his identification number before he can proceed. Other flags include order feasibility, a reminder to assign a barcode serial number, parts out of stock, and so on.

Before leaving the premises, each computer has a 12-hour burn in. This is an all-night test to check if any faults develop. At this stage, a portable scanner is used to scan the results of the test and this is then uploaded into the network system. Any machines with a fault are returned to be reworked.

Finally at despatch the pc is scanned and the barcoded address labels are printed for the outer cartons. The pc's records are sent to customers



"The unique barcode serial number on each pc and order enabled us to pinpoint its destination"

able and supplied the six Symbol 11.701 scanners and software linking the network to a host computer.

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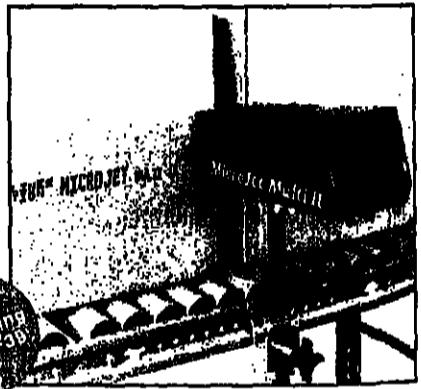
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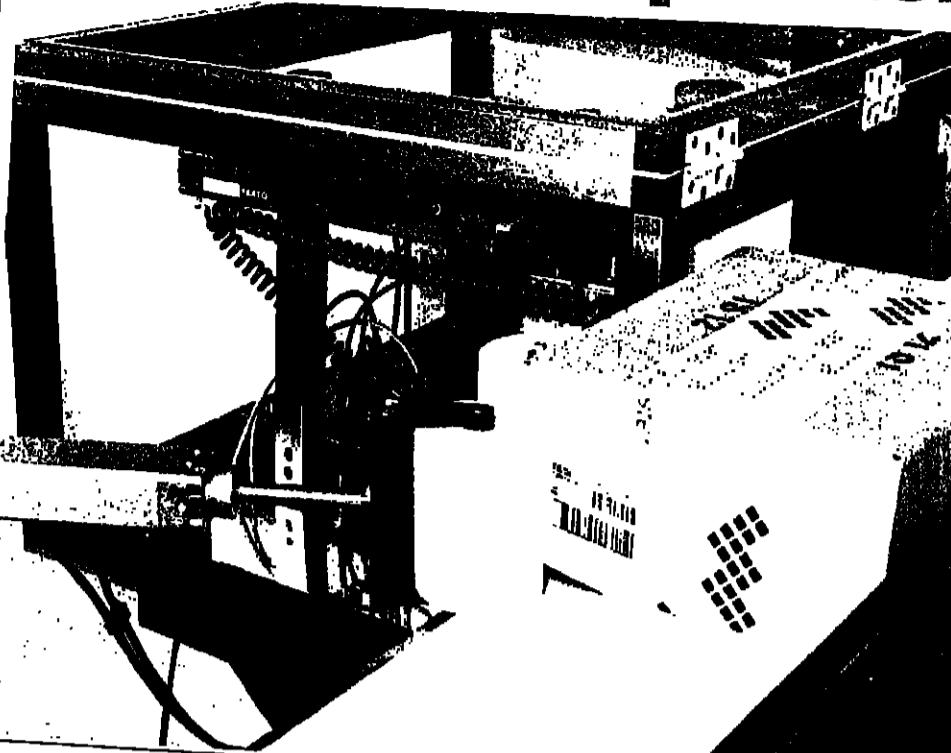


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## Label logistics problem solved



Weyfringe Quattro real-time label print and apply system

Hygrade Foods Ltd, manufacturer of sausages and cooked meats many of which are sold under supermarket own-brands, has solved its label logistics problem by installing 11 print and apply labelling systems from Weyfringe Ltd.

Barcode labels have to be applied to two sides of outer cartons to facilitate product identification and automatic stock analysis, as well as having to include unique information such as sell by dates and production batch numbers.

To achieve the wraparound of the label on two faces of the carton, pneumatic ram assemblies were mounted on the conveyor. These rams are controlled by the print and apply cycle and apply the wrap-round section of the label around the 90deg outer corner.

To get over the problem of not using pens in the food operating area, the system is controlled by a hand-held terminal using a Psion organiser. Label formats are prepared on office-based PCs and downloaded to the Psion.

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### UV ink gives good adhesion

A white uv-cure ink from Videojet Systems International has the advantages of good adhesion and resistance to alcohols and petrochemical products.

Specified for use with the company's VJ111/P, VJ111/XP and Excel P printers, the 16-2720 ink combines with a uv system to give a curing time onto pvc of less than 0.5 seconds. A typical 300 Watt uv emission focused on a 2cm spot can be used.

Glass, metal and dark plastic

ties are among the substrates for which the ink is suitable. The permanency of the ink stands up to anything from motor oil to mild acids, says Videojet (Videojet House, 153 Dixon Hill Road, Welham Green, Hatfield, Herts - tel: 0707 275844, fax: 275893).

The company will design

and install coding and curing

systems adapted to a particular

substrate, uv energy, bulb type

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(see page 2 for further details)

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PACKAGING NEWS/FEBRUARY 1994

## Resealable leaflet provides security



Scratch 'n Sniff label on Island Fresh, a Comfort fabric conditioner

### Peel and smell tester

The Quattro RT is a real time print and apply labelling system specifically designed to allow simple label content variation to the point where, if necessary, each label applied can contain different information.

To achieve the wraparound

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Norprint (Horncliffe Road, Boston, Lincolnshire PE21 9HZ - tel: 0205 365161, fax: 591251) says that it could develop a resealable peel and smell label if requested.

The first Scratch 'n Sniff label to be used on-pack for a fabric conditioner at point of sale is carried on 320 ml and 640 ml gable-top refill cartons of a Comfort fabric conditioner.

The 27mm diameter fragrance labels, printed in magenta, are manufactured by Sessions of York (The Ebor Press, York YO3 9HS - tel: 0904 659224, fax: 644888).

Any aroma can be incorporated into the Norprint label and the principle can be applied to other label constructions such as folded labels.

"We believe it is easier for the consumer to use as well as more versatile as a promotional

carrier than earlier generations of fragrant labels," says Norprint's general manager, Andrew Scrimgeour.

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Any aroma can be incorporated into the

## Vector laser preferred

For flexibility and control in the marking of high-density barcodes onto pvc for product tracking, MediSense Inc chose a vector laser in preference to a mask system or inkjet.

Laser Lines is supplying blood glucose sensor manufacturer MediSense with a Bansel Nd: YAG solid state laser for a quality control system. Pvc is marked with codes containing 12 digits of information.

Machine and human readable incremental codes are put down at a speed of one a second. The sophistication of computer control, the ability to change on the fly, the lack of moving parts and the feasibility of in-house maintenance all contributed to the choice of the system.

## LABELLING, CODING AND MARKING

# Laser coding 24,000 yoghurt pots an hour

**Low maintenance and running costs, high speed, hygiene and reliability are all benefits persuading manufacturers - despite high capital costs - to turn to laser rather than other coding technologies, reports Paul Gander.**

Line speeds of 24,000 yoghurt pots an hour can be matched by a laser coding system installed by Technology Systems at Yielding Tree Packers.

This is achieved by use of a shuttle system combined with a split coding head to mark two rows of six pots rather than a single row. Coding takes place onto lids during dwell time on the line. The split head avoids the need for two separate coding heads.

Yielding Tree chose the laser system to complement its newly installed Hampta potting machine for Manor Farm yoghurts. On its previous, lower-capacity machine, the company used an inkpad system which required constant maintenance and refurbishment, says md John Morris. "The system would anyway have been inappropriate for the high-capacity machine."

"You can't afford to have any stoppages with a machine of this size and output. We

used our best endeavours to cover every potential weakness in the whole system. One of the main components was the batch and date coding," says Mr Morris.

"We were looking for equipment which gave good results and which didn't interfere with the operation of the machine, with minimum maintenance," he explains.

Although start-up cost is high, there is a minimal requirement for consumables, Mr Morris points out. "I felt that laser was the ultimate. I'm convinced that inkjet is good but not as good, and frankly I don't like ink," he says.

## No more clogging

Excessive downtime due to printhead clogging led Sheltie Seafoods to turn from inkjet to laser for best-before dates, with an installation by Lumonics Ltd Hull Operations.

A Lumonics Xymark 7000 is used for coding inline onto cartons of fish-in-sauce in Sheltie's Hull factory. Software on the system allows for up to three lines of text in a 7x5 dot matrix at speeds of up to 650 characters a second.

"We had experienced problems with the inkjet system

installed on the line and were keen to find an alternative system which would not have the same high labour and downtime costs," says Sheltie production director Bob Carter.

Up to 80 cartons a minute are coded on the Sheltie line. Ease of use and cost-effectiveness were further reasons for the company's choice, says Mr Carter. No routine cleaning or maintenance is required with the Xymark, which incorporates a sealed CO<sub>2</sub> laser.

An installation of eight LaserMark 940 pulsed CO<sub>2</sub>

systems at Portuguese brewer Centralcer complies with legislation by putting best-before dates onto paper labels. The company required a high speed system which guaranteed quality coding and minimal running and maintenance costs.

### Ease of use demanded

"With the high throughput on the production lines, reliability was vital, something our previous coding system did not deliver. Centralcer also demanded ease of use and cost effectiveness," explains engineering manager Nuno Meireles.

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268



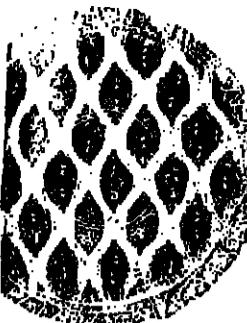
The Lightjet dot-matrix system

Oxon OXR 6YD - tel: 0993 776601, fax: 705826.

A Belgian system installed last year uses a shuttle-mounted Lightjet to code plastics floppy disks directly with indelible batch codes, switching to any one of three lines on demand. As an alternative, inkjet is said to have provided problems of permanency and legibility.

Yielding Tree is the company's first installation of a split coding head on a shuttle rather than a static installation, says Technology Systems. The coding head has a traverse speed of up to 45m a minute.

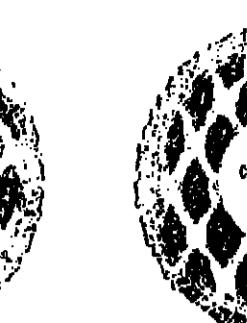
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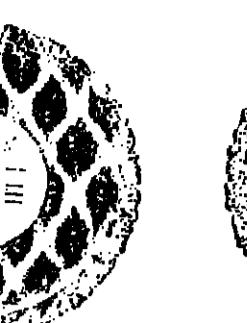
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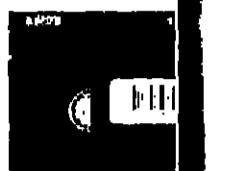
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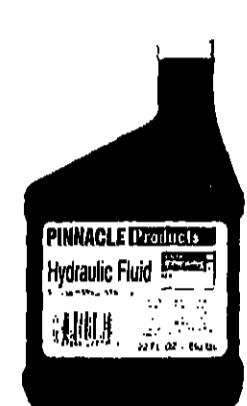
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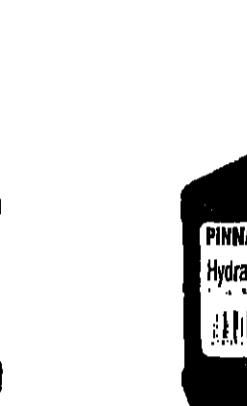
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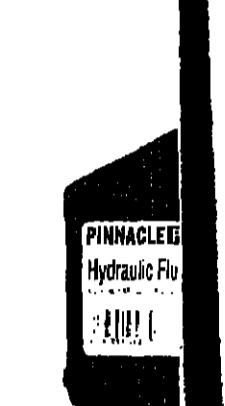
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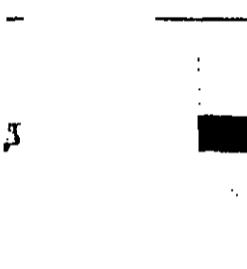
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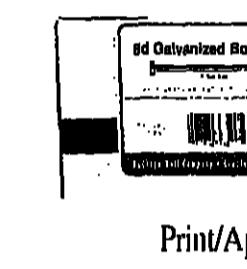
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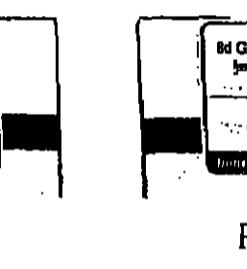
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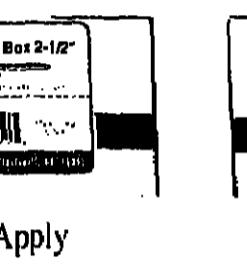
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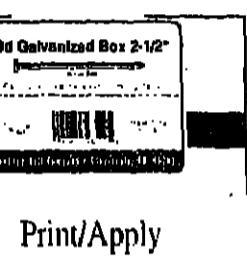
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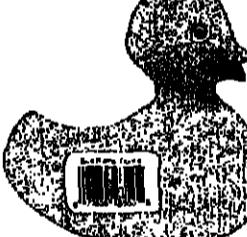
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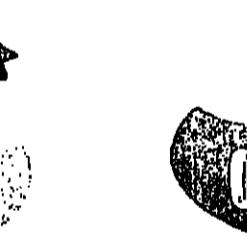
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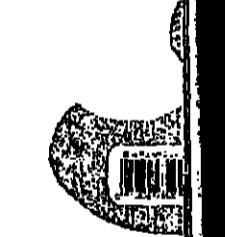
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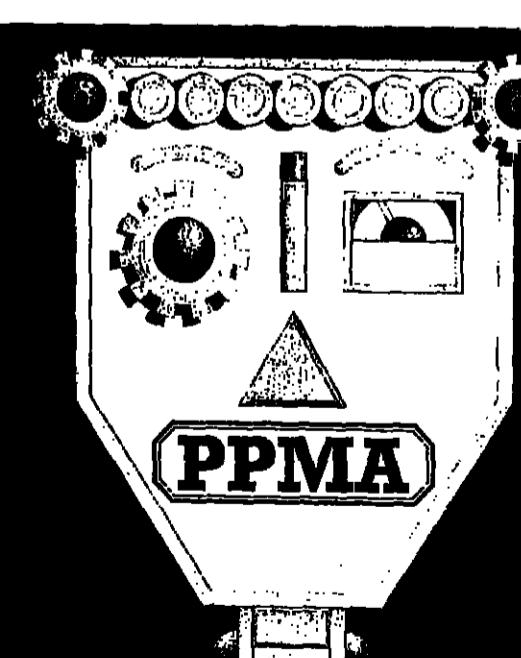
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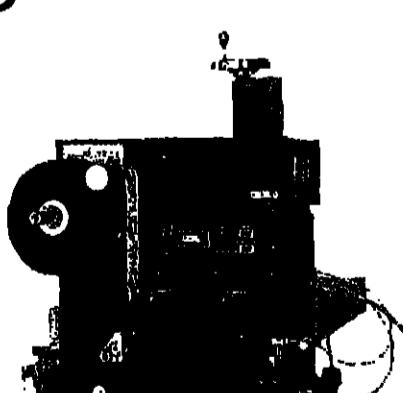
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## Model-maker cans sport pet sleeves

Used for Humbrol hobby paints for many years, 14ml mini cans are now sporting pet sleeves for the first time.

The cans, instantly recognisable to generations of model makers, are no longer printed directly on the metal surface, instead the 40 micron sleeves are printed in red, blue and black on an overall white background. They still retain the familiar Humbrol logo and instructions in six languages.

"When our print machinery used for these Humbrol tins finally needed replacing, we and Humbrol took the opportunity to review the method of decoration," says Jim Snell, administration manager at manufacturers of the cans, CarnaudMetalbox Specialty Packaging UK/USA.

"Shrink sleeving not only proved to be cost effective but

is also ideal for application on a high speed automatic production line," he continued.

The sleeves are manufactured by Decorative Sleeves (Rolleby Road, Hardwick Industrial Estate, King's Lynn,

Norfolk PE30 4LS - tel: 0553 769319, fax: 767071) and says CarnaudMetalbox was chosen as supplier to best meet the specifications.

For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268



Pet sleeves now decorate Humbrol hobby paints 14ml mini cans

## Inkjet aids stock control of Bach flower remedies

Alternative medicine producer Bach Flower Remedies has installed a Cueprint Elite inkjet printer to help its stock control procedures prior to labelling products for export around the world.

Bach produces 39 varieties of remedies made from flower essences. Around 5000 bottles are produced in each batch, but because many overseas countries have different labelling regulations and requirements, the bottles are not labelled at the production stage, only when their final destination is known.

This led to some confusion when bottles occasionally became separated as it was not easy to establish which remedy they contained. "The code now tells us what's inside the bottle", said Sylvia Ravencroft, production supervisor at Bach Remedies.

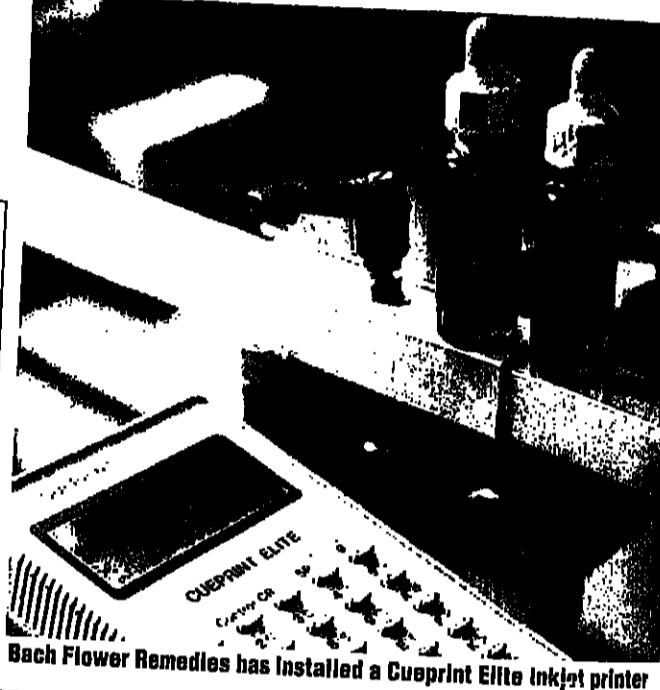
For further information K2 Call for details 0839 772268

The Cueprint Elite prints simple batch code in white ink onto the side of the bottle to allow easy and immediate identification of varieties.

Bach says Elite was selected because of its compact dimensions and ease of operation. "We looked at several different inkjet models but many of these were quite big and bulky with lots of connecting wires and cables, and their size would have been a problem in our factory," says Ms Ravencroft.

Cueprint is at Compton Place, Surrey Avenue, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3DX - tel: 0276 691730, fax: 0868995.

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PACKAGING NEWS/FEBRUARY 1994

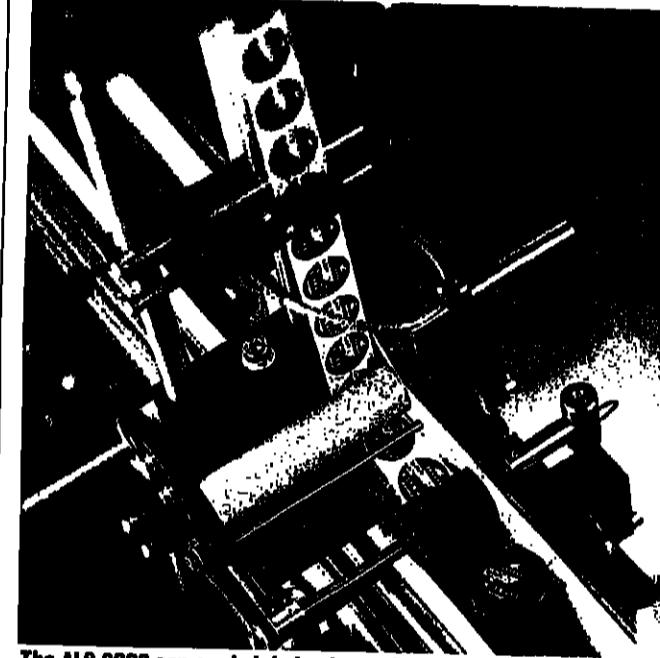
## Three-head accuracy

A three-head mainline label application system from Avery Dennison has been supplied to Boots Contract Packaging, the first UK company to use the equipment.

Brought in to label 15ml jars of Boots own brand 'Natural' range lip balm - a new product for the retailer - the ALS 2000 can apply labels at speeds of up to 50 jars a minute.

High accuracy is said to be a major feature of the line. This is achieved by the use of stepper motors and microprocessors, which allow for independent head speed and label positioning controls.

Standard features on the modular ALS 2000 include integrated electronics and separate operator controls, a Delrin slot conveyor, centrally driven spring-loaded top hold stabiliser belt and four-way adjustable head supports.



The ALS 2000 can apply labels at speeds of up to 50 jars a minute

### Top-mounted gearbox guards against seepage

A top-mounted gearbox, standard on Figgie Packaging Systems' Alfaquattro F5 Top Brain wet label applicator, ensures that glue or water cannot seep in and lead to unnecessary downtime.

Designed for use in bottling lines where high speed throughput may be between 600 and 1200 containers a minute, the rotary labeler uses six or seven applicator heads to handle labels 190 or 130mm long respectively.

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Other features include an anti-vibration base frame, designed to absorb noise, tool-less container-size changeover, micrometer glue film adjustment and a pneumatic glue pump. Cylindrical or other shaped containers in glass, metal or plastic can be handled, says Figgie (28 Chase Road, Park Royal, London NW10 6QW - tel: 081-965 4021, fax: 081-965 1591).

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PACKAGING NEWS/FEBRUARY 1994

## Glue stops 'winging'

Changes to the water-based adhesives used at the Buxton Mineral Water plant are alleviating problems of labelling

quality on 5 and 1 litre bottles. An audit of the plant by Datac Adhesives Ltd led to the adoption of its RO987 adhesive.

Being slower drying than alternatives, the glue is said to hold label corners back more successfully and prevent 'winging'. Since then, fewer problems have occurred with the large labels, which has to run around three sides of the square 5 litre bottle.

On the one litre bottle line, Datac found that the high viscosity adhesive used was causing messy conditions around the machine. By switching to the company's own 702K adhesive, with its lower viscosity, Buxton found that the machine kept itself much cleaner.

Label security and a good fibre tearing bond are assured with 702K, says Datac (Globe Lane Industrial Estate, Dukinfield, Cheshire SK16 4NE - tel: 061-339 8400, fax: 061-343 2713).

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RO987 adhesive by Datac Adhesives Ltd: cuts large label problems

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## Tension transducer

Narrow web label presses are a principal application for the Conticell web tension transducer introduced by CMC (Europe) for 50 to 450mm widths.

The unit, which accepts either existing or purpose-built rollers, has a standard four-bolt fixing to the machine frame and is available in several force ratings for applications in which web tensions ranging from 50 to 3000N are required.

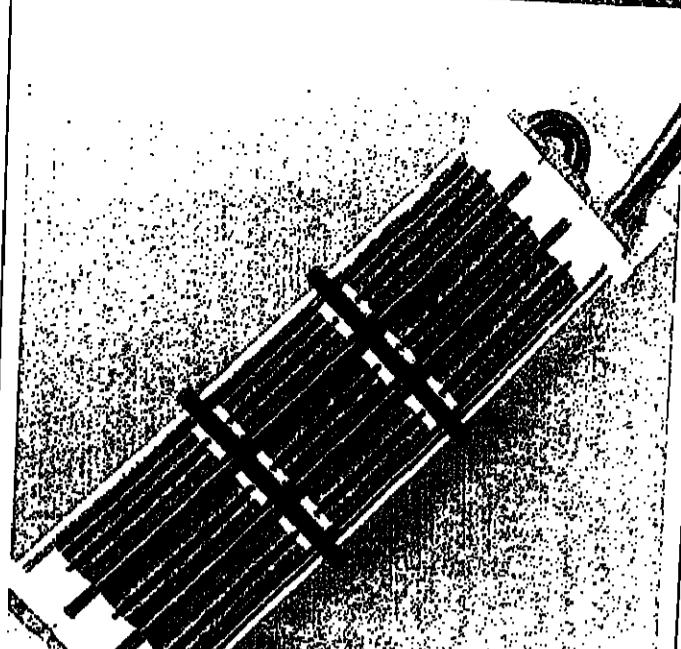
### Errors eliminated

Errors in output signal as a result of either web path shift or width variations across the roller are eliminated by the shear force design, says CMC (Arctic House, Rye Lane, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks, Kent - tel: 0732 451007, fax: 0732 456582).

Also introduced by the company is a range of tension indicators offering analogue and digital display together with a dual range allowing use at high tension but with sensitivity retained at low tensions.

These operate with a new series of unwind, intermediate and rewind controllers which are readily retrofitted to existing machinery, says CMC.

For further information K2 Call for details 0638 772268



X-Stat PM-PU anti-static bar supplied by The Process Control Co

## Anti-static on wide webs

An anti-static bar that can be supplied in lengths up to 8 metres for operation on webs running at over 1200 metres a minute has been introduced by The Process Control Co.

The X-Stat PM-PU bars use a high tension system with fully screened conduit to ensure minimal power loss over cable lengths in excess of 10 metres, says the company.

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## Defects can be spotted, marked and analysed

Analysis of defects such as holes, spots or creases in high speed webs of paper, film or foil is provided by the model 145 Analyser, introduced by NAIS Automated Inspection Systems to operate with its model 132 web inspection system.

The 145 Analyser is able to differentiate between different defects, record their position and signal edge markers or tab inserters to indicate areas for splicing. A full print-out is produced, with analysis by number of defects in a given area, type of defect, and in

terms of time and the distance between them. Operating speed is up to 6000 feet a minute, says NAIS (Corner of Worthing Road and New Road, Horsham, Sussex - tel: 0403 730792, fax: 0403 730790).

### "Warns of any rise in defects"

On paper machines in particular, the Analyser allows any rise in defects to be trended

and used to warn of an imminent web break.

The system operates with the NAIS 132 web inspection machine which uses a non-contact inspection head with photocells to detect blemishes or holes down to the equivalent of a 0.25mm diameter black spot on white.

Elevated defects such as lumps, creases or indentations are detected by one-sided illumination that casts a shadow and creates a contrast in colour.

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## Inspection by video camera

A video web inspection system which, in its basic form, sells for less than £8000, is now being built by Scan Systems.

Called the Webscan, it offers a number of options, says Scan Systems (Adswood Ind. Est., Stockport, Cheshire - tel: 061-477 7550, fax: 061-480 0037).

For further information K2 Call for details 0638 772268

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## Thickness gauged from one side only

A thickness probe that uses the Compton Photon Backscatter principle to operate from one side of the web only, for applications in extrusion coating, laminating, hot melt and other coatings, is now available in the UK from NDC Systems.

The probe, which can be mounted on a motorised carriage to scan across the web width, is said to cost less than gauges that use a transmission technique, and to be simple to install. It measures 50mm in diameter, 260mm long.

In operation, the unit detects those photons from a small radioactive isotope backscattered from the web at 180° in direct proportion to mass. This is then converted to a read-out in units such as gram or micron.

A patented system, which allows the unit to reference from the gamma source itself,

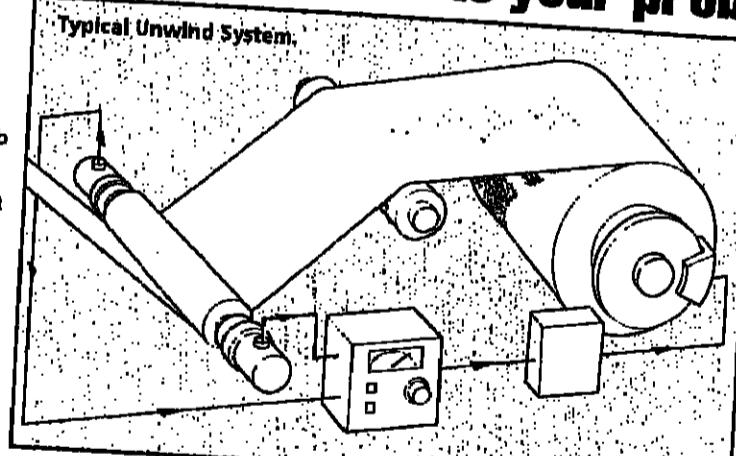
### "Changes colour"

The NDC probe is unaffected by changes in colour, composition or opacity and, since it operates from one side only, can be used to measure thickness against a steel roll. Software automatically zeros out any backscatter from the roll itself.

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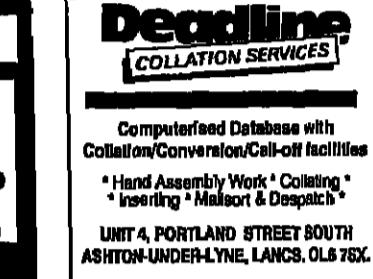


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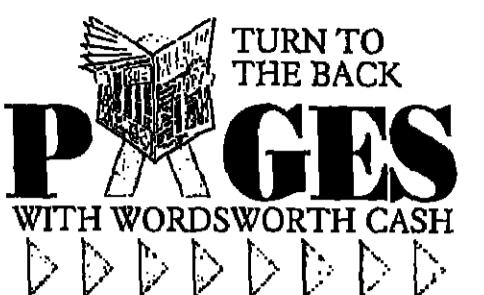
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Management & development of an international business client portfolio within the cosmetics & toiletries markets for a leading European glass container manufacturer, renowned for quality & innovation. The ideal candidate will have related sales & marketing experience and fluency in one or more European languages.

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All replies should be sent to the Consultant responsible for this assignment.

Confidentiality is assured with no names released to the Client without permission.

**David W. Mendez**  
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